

Chairman Hua attacks the 'ultra-left' in China

Confirming his resignation as Prime Minister, Chairman Hua Guofeng of China has launched a strong attack on the 'ultra-left' of the past. He called for economic and social reforms and reaffirmed Peking's determination to integrate Taiwan into the People's Republic. His speech to the National People's Congress lasted two hours.

More prominent role for trade unions

From David Bonavia
Hongkong, Sept 7
Mr. Hua Guofeng, China's outgoing Prime Minister, today announced far-reaching reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, reducing bureaucracy, raising living standards, and giving the trade unions a more prominent role. The constitution is to be revised and the present 10-year economic plan is being scrapped.

Mr. Hua, who was addressing the present session of the National People's Congress in Peking, confirmed that he and Mr. Deng Xiaoping, the senior Deputy Prime Minister, were resigning their posts on the State Council (Cabinet of Ministers). Both men, however, are retaining their much more important jobs as respectively chairman and vice-chairman of the Communist Party.

Other Deputy Prime Ministers resigning their jobs include Mr. Xu Xiangqian, Defence Minister, who is thought likely to be replaced by a younger man with closer links to the inner circles of the party leadership. Mr. Li Xiangnian, Mr. Chen Yun and Mr. Wang Zhen, who have been deeply involved in economic planning, are resigning mainly on grounds of age.

Mr. Wang Renzhong is resigning his post as Deputy Prime Minister to concentrate on party work. Mr. Chen Yonggu, whom the late Chairman Mao brought into the politburo, has "requested" that he be permitted to resign "doubtless" after the severe criticism of the Cultural Revolution which was once highly praised almost daily in the national press.

Seasoned provincial administrator
Interest now focuses on the identity of the men who will be brought in to fill the gaps. So far only the identity of the new Prime Minister—Mr. Zhao Ziyang—has been officially disclosed.

Mr. Zhao is a seasoned provincial administrator, credited with having successfully re-organized agriculture and other economic sectors in the large province of Sichuan. His appointment has been known of unofficially for several months.

Mr. Hua, once considered a strong supporter of Mao, from whom he received his party chairmanship by direct bequest, launched a strong attack today on what he called the "ultra-leftism" of the past. However, he did not ascribe this "deviation" to Mao, preferring to say that it was against the former leader's real thinking.

Economic and Social Reform was the main theme of Mr. Hua's two-hour speech, at which foreign diplomats were present. He was particularly severe towards the bureaucracy, which "has hampered all kinds of work and aroused much popular discontent".

Photograph, page 5

Setback for geothermal energy plans
The Department of Energy is trying to find a way round a setback to its geothermal energy programme in Britain. A project, which started last year to extract energy from a hot water aqueduct, known as the Westwood in Hampshire, has suffered a rebuff from its first customer, the electricity board. The board has chosen to close the very power station that was to be supplied with geothermal energy. Page 3

Cairo invitation
Egypt has invited Mr. Sharmir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, to visit Cairo for talks. The discussions will not deal with the issue of Palestinian autonomy but with improving relations between the two countries. The last two foreign embassies in Jerusalem, those of Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, announced that they were moving to Tel Aviv. Page 4

Trade show is lost
An international trade show of textile machinery, worth £150m in invisible earnings, was due to be held at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham in 1983, will go to Milan, because of undercutting for the contract by the Italians. Page 2

Polish leader promises liberalizing reforms

From Desza Tverian
Belgrade, Sept 7
Hailed by President Brezhnev as a staunch and trusted fighter for communism and a friend of the Soviet Union, Mr. Stanislaw Kania, Poland's new party leader, inaugurated his new deal policy for his countrymen with a pledge to restore the broken link between the Polish communist Party and Polish society. He also promised to carry out the agreement which the authorities had reached with the workers in the Baltic ports, conceding the right to free trade unions.

Mr. Kania's speech was made at Friday's emergency session of the party's Central Committee, which finally ended the long personal agony of Mr. Edward Giersek, the party leader, as it became increasingly apparent over the past few weeks that in order to restore the credibility of the Communist Party Mr. Giersek would have to resign.

He described the present situation as "an odyssey of official papers and a deluge of reports and meetings, disputes over trifles, and a dilatory style of work". He said that in future "all matters affecting the vital interests of the workers and staff must be handled with the consent of the trade unions". China's trade unions have so far been confined mainly to propagating party policy, supervising discipline, and conducting welfare programmes.

Mr. Hua attacked the hitherto prevalent policy of showing contempt for academic or professional knowledge and of holding back young people for promotion because too many elderly and infirm officials refused to resign.

Strict independence of the courts
He also gave a warning to officials who "pursue only the private interests or those of their children, relatives and friends at the expense of the state and the people", telling them they should "think twice before doing so, for state laws and discipline will not let them go unpunished". He called for strict independence of the courts and judiciary, whose roles have recently been reinforced and expanded.

The present economic system, Mr. Hua said, consisted mainly of what was copied from the Soviet Union in the 1950s, and certain practices derived from the civil war period. The result was "the enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of the workers were dampened, and the superiority of the socialist system was not given full play".

It was necessary, for the time being, to retain a mixed economic system of state-owned enterprises, collectively-owned ones, and individual production. Mr. Hua condemned the previous tendency (favoured by Mao) of speeding up transition to more communistic forms of economy before the time was ripe.

The basic purpose of the present modernization plan was to "improve living standards". The present ten-year plan would be replaced by one covering the years 1981 to 1990. The previous plan had contained excessive high targets, too large a scale of capital construction, and a lack of balance. Science and technology had been insufficiently developed.

On foreign policy, Mr. Hua condemned the "two Chinas" policy, or policy of one China and one Taiwan, reaffirming Peking's determination to integrate Taiwan into the People's Republic. This was doubtless in response to the promise of Mr. Ronald Reagan, the American Republican candidate, of more official relations between Taiwan and the United States in the event of his election as President.

Photograph, page 5

300 arrested in Zurich protest
Zurich police clashed with about 2,000 demonstrators who threw paving stones, erected barricades and started fires in the city centre streets as part of the continuing protest over the police occupation of the youth centre in a disused Linthbachstrasse factory. More than 300 people were arrested by police using water cannon, rubber bullets and tear gas. Page 4

£286m air orders
Orders worth £286m for British air craft and equipment, taken or announced during the Farnborough Air Show, will provide welcome support during the Government's three-month moratorium on the defence contracts. The Society of British Aerospace Companies believes that follow-on orders could bring the total to £500m. Page 2

Fishermen seek funds
With their children going back to school, Boulogne's fishermen, who voted solidly last Friday, to keep their strike going, spent the weekend fund-raising. Their eight-week stoppage has left some families destitute and today the wives voted to decide who needs help the most. Page 4

SDP feel confident
West Germany's Social Democrats (SDP) celebrated their 13 years in power at a huge electoral jamboree in Dortmund, confident of winning a further four-year term. Page 4

Interne war in Washington led to advice of former American Ambassador being ignored US policy in Iran revolution upset by Brzezinski factor

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Sept 7

The last American Ambassador to the late Shah of Iran, Mr. William Sullivan, has published a scathing attack on American policy towards Iran at the time of the revolution. He blames Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski for most of the trouble. According to Mr. Sullivan, the Shah decided in the summer of 1978 that he could not use the Iranian armed forces against the revolutionaries, partly because "a king must not murder his people" but more, in the ambassador's judgment, because such a repression would only work in the Shah's own reign. He did not expect to live long, and if he suppressed the revolution violently himself, it would burst out again after his death, sweeping his dynasty away.

Mr. Sullivan constantly advised Washington of the Shah's judgment, with which he concurred. He says, in an article published in Foreign Policy magazine, that it was accepted by the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency, but not by Mr. Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser. The National Security Council distrusted the State Department because many diplomats wanted to get rid of the Shah at any price because of his deplorable record on human rights. Mr. Sullivan protests that a life-time of diplomacy has therefore been ignored by Mr. Brzezinski, who could not believe in his professional objectivity. He does not defend the Shah, but observes that the over-riding American interest was and is the preservation of Iran as an independent country, and that meant that the armed forces had to be preserved.

He claims that Mr. Brzezinski shared this view of the priorities that should be followed in dealing with Iran, but carried it to the extreme of wanting to support the Shah to the bitter end and, if he refused to suppress the revolution with the Army himself, to give every support to the successor government of Mr. Shapour Bakhtiar, encouraging him to suppress the revolution after the Shah's departure. Mr. Sullivan has an exceedingly low opinion of Mr. Bakhtiar, whom he considered an irrelevance in Iranian politics, a fig-leaf put in place to allow the Shah to get out of the country with some residual dignity. Mr. Sullivan thought that the inevitable outcome of the revolution would be the installation of a government headed by Mr. Mehdi Bazargan, whom he describes as a "benevolent social democrat". In a telegram sent to Washington on November 9, 1978, Mr. Sullivan proposed that the United States should invest all its remaining prestige and authority in Iran in finding and supporting military leaders who would transfer their allegiance to Mr. Bazargan, and through him to the forces supporting Ayatollah Khomeini. If the armed forces remained intact, the damage caused by the revolution would be kept to a minimum, and American relations with the new Iran would be relatively amicable.

He writes that the Shah agreed with him. Throughout the year, Mr. Ardeshir Zahedi, the Iranian Ambassador to Washington, in effect as Mr. Brzezinski's man in Iran. The Shah frequently warned Mr. Sullivan that no notice should be paid to Mr. Brzezinski, warning the ambassador sent to Washington. Mr. Sullivan goes on to say: "At about this time, the interne squabbling in Washington began to impinge upon my communications." He writes that the substance of his telegram, appeared "almost verbatim" in The New York Times (leaked by Mr. Brzezinski) and he therefore tried to use the secure telephone to communicate with the State Department. Continued on page 5, col 4



Some of the 500 competitors in the 13-mile half-marathon 'super jog' held at Burnham Beeches, Buckinghamshire, yesterday in aid of a blood cancer research fund.

Attempt to reconcile Westward factions

By Philip Robinson
Financial Staff

A behind-the-scenes attempt to reconcile the warring factions in the boardroom of Westward Television was made at the weekend.

It is understood that Lord Harris, the present chairman, has despatched emissaries to Mr. Peter Cadbury, the man he helped vote out, in an attempt to find some common ground on which the two could work together in running the television station whose franchise comes up for renewal in December.

This comes after Friday's High Court decision by Mr. Justice Dillon to allow Mr. Cadbury to hold an extraordinary meeting of shareholders in London on Wednesday. At that meeting he proposes to use the blocks of 50 per cent of Westward shares for which he speaks to vote out six Westward directors, including Lord Harris, and then at a subsequent board meeting resign his place as chairman and reinstate Lord Lisburne, his deputy, who was deposed with him at a stormy board meeting in July.

However, the board says it will not recognise Wednesday's meeting as valid and will not accept any decisions taken. According to Lord Harris that could mean "chaos" for the management of Westward. After the shareholders' meeting there would have to be a board meeting, which there would be too many directors for the number of boardroom positions. Some directors would inevitably challenge the claims of others to office and there would be further wranglings over the chairmanship.

Lord Harris and his legal advisers meet today to decide whether to lodge an appeal against Friday's High Court decision. If they wish to appeal—and in a party which is acknowledged as the official legal holiday, court time is unlikely to be available until Friday—then they would have to ask for an immediate injunction for Wednesday's meeting not to be held and renew that daily until the appeal could be heard.

The reconciliation moves by Lord Harris are understood to arise from a worry on both sides that a receiver and manager would have to be appointed to Westward if the two sides could not collaborate on running the day-to-day business of the company.

Mr. Justice Dillon said at Friday's hearing that if collaboration proved impossible, then an application could be made to the court for the temporary appointment of a receiver and manager to run Westward until the long-term composition of the board has been sorted out.

Neither side is thought to favour that course of action because it is viewed as a move which could lose Westward its franchise. The long-term composition of the Westward board is likely to be sorted out at a meeting of ordinary shareholders' meeting on October 17.

That was the date originally set by the present board after Mr. Cadbury had renounced a special meeting following his dismissal as chairman. But Mr. Cadbury accused the board of things delaying action and convened the special meeting for Wednesday.

Protest over Chilean treatment of Briton

By Stewart Tandler

Four days before the lifting of the arms embargo to Chile this year the British consul in Santiago had to intervene with the authorities for the release of a British girl held and allegedly ill-treated by secret police.

The case of Miss Clare Francis Wilson, aged 21, was disclosed at the weekend by Amnesty International. The Foreign Office said yesterday that after the girl's release she gave the embassy a court deposition on her treatment and two protests have been made to Chile.

Amnesty International, who see parallels between Miss Wilson's case and that of Dr. Sheila Cassidy, the British surgeon held and tortured in 1975, are to ask the Foreign Office to investigate. Mr. Peter Shore, the Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, said he also intended to raise the matter with ministers.

Miss Wilson, a student who holds dual nationality, was arrested on July 15 with Señor José Miguel Benado at her parents' home. After being threatened, the two were separated and Miss Wilson says she was intimidated by threats to rape and shoot her.

She was asked to give up her British citizenship and denounce her companion as an extremist. Later she was made to watch Señor Benado being beaten.

The court statement says that she did not want to go on telling how they continued to torture her because at this moment I am alive and I exist. Miss Wilson is still living in Chile and the British Embassy is in touch with her family. She is reported to have received medical treatment after her experiences.

Yesterday the Foreign Office said the British consul intervened on her behalf on July 18 after her sister had visited the embassy. Miss Wilson was released the same day, after the protest.

Among those named as being on the "priority list" are: Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Mr. Norman Atkinson, the party treasurer, Mr. Neil Kinnock, opposition spokesman on education, Mrs. Judith Hart, Miss Joan Lester, Miss Joan Maynard, Miss Jo Richardson, Mrs. Renee Short, and Mr. Dennis Skinner, all NEC members. The organisation committee, if its decision is ratified, will write to alliance members who have said they will stand in the general election against Labour candidates, and ask if they intend to carry out their threat. It is suggested they will be given a month to reply. If they confirm their intentions then it is expected they will be asked to resign from the party or be expelled. Such a mass expulsion is bound to cause a furor, but the party will answer its critics by stating that it has no alternative if alliance members stand in opposition to official candidates. Dr. Stephen Haseler, chairman of the alliance, and Mr. Roger Fox, the national organiser, were expelled from their local constituency parties but reinstated on appeal to the National Executive. Dr. Haseler has stated that the alliance would be putting up candidates because it felt that the left had come to dominate the Labour Party and official party candidates were no longer representing the feelings of ordinary supporters.

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HOME NEWS

Plans for geothermal energy get setback from electricity board

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Department of Energy has been trying to remedy a mistake, though not one of its own making, which is jeopardising the development of geothermal energy in Britain. The muddle involves the Government's Advisory Council on Research Development, the Department of Energy's steering committee, the Central Electricity Generating Board.

A project was started last year to extract energy from a hot water aqueduct, known as the Wessex Basin, which has more than 5,000 metres beneath Hampshire. Experiments showed that water at temperatures up to 70°C could be pumped to the surface. The tests were done at the site of Marchwood power station, on the west bank of Southampton Water, in the generating board's south-west region.

On that evidence, the generating board offered to become the first customer for geothermal energy in Britain. The reservoir was to provide a suitable supply to supplement the feedwater at Marchwood, which is a 480 megawatt oil-fired station.

From the same evidence gained in that experiment, a second project was agreed closer to Southampton for a geothermal borehole to provide heat to a new civic development with shops, offices, a conference centre and bus station, where the heating need is estimated at about 15 megawatts.

But now the generating board has decided to close Marchwood in two years as part of a scheme to phase out medium-size power stations, and the project for extracting geothermal energy will take two years to complete.

An alternative course is being pursued, which has divided experts on the Government's advisory council, and the Department of Energy's steering committee. In the new scheme to phase out medium-size power stations, the Department of Energy's steering committee, the Central Electricity Generating Board, and the Department of Energy's steering committee are all involved.

The technical obstacles in constructing pipelines from an unsuitably placed borehole will give a totally false picture of the economics of geothermal energy, making it seem a very expensive way.

There is, therefore, concern that other large reservoirs in Britain such as the East Yorkshire-Lincolnshire Basin, the Cheshire Basin, the Worcester Basin and the Middle Valley of Scotland, will go unexploited.

Yet the techniques of extraction are a simplified version of the technology used to get oil from the North Sea. To fact the Advisory Council on Research Development has suggested to the Government that this source of geothermal energy has reached the stage where industry and commerce should be prepared to take over the development of local supplies.

But the experiences in the Wessex Basin are almost bound to put off any groups interested in extracting energy cheaply.

Another source of geothermal energy being examined involves the fracturing of hot, dry rocks through which water is forced



Gerard Clay, aged 10, and brother, Adam (right), great grandsons of Baden-Powell, with scout leaders at Gilwell Park, Essex, yesterday.

Mr Healey tops poll leader vote

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Denis Healey, the Labour man thought most likely to succeed Mr James Callaghan, the leader of the Opposition, when he retires, was given a vote of confidence by an opinion poll yesterday.

The Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) showed that people thought he would make a better prime minister than Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The poll asked who would make the best prime minister if Mr Healey became Opposition Leader: 45 per cent were in favour of Mr Healey and 39 per cent for Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Healey's rivals for Labour leadership did not fare so well. The question assumed that each had gained Labour leadership. Mr Peter Shore polled 33 per cent against a vote for Mrs Thatcher of 29 per cent; Mr Michael Foot got 33 per cent (Mrs Thatcher, 48 per cent); Mr John Silkin, 29 per cent (38 per cent); Mr Roy Hattersley, 29 per cent (42 per cent) and Mr Wedgwood Benn, 29 per cent (51 per cent).

Labour challenge: Mr Benn said yesterday that if there were a Labour leadership election in the autumn he would stand in an attempt to change the character of the leadership.

Explosives found by border

An Irish bomb disposal squad was yesterday examining one and a half tons of explosives found near the Ulster border.

The explosives, commercial fertilizer and a substance thought to be nitroglycerine, were found under a load of hay being trailed by a car which was stopped at a security roadblock early yesterday near Muff, co Donegal, four miles from Londonderry. Three armed men who held up the police manning the checkpoint before making off were believed to be going to a bombing mission in Ulster.

The men, who had machine guns and pistols, put the policemen's radio out of action, and later forced a barmaid returning home from work to drive them several miles away.

A man was being questioned yesterday about the explosives.

Councils plan for loss of over 150,000 jobs

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Government spending policy could cost more than 150,000 jobs in local government in the next two years, Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said yesterday.

Local expenditure steering groups were considering reductions of between 100,000 and 120,000 jobs in 1981-82, and 60,000 more in 1982-83.

Mr Smart said the Government might argue that they were not suggesting that number of people be dismissed. "That is irrelevant. The end result would still be another 150,000 to pay unemployment benefit to, another 160,000 people not making a positive contribution to the economic well being of the country. It adds up to another massive twist to the unemployment spiral."

Local government would not be able to squeeze that number of jobs from its administrative staff. "I will be teachers, residential care workers, dustmen, street sweepers, builders and decorators, health inspectors and bus drivers whose jobs will go."

Mr Smart said that the Government intended to inflict on local authorities cuts of between 3 and 5 per cent next year and nearly 4 and 7 per cent in the following year. The effect of these cuts would be much greater on arts and libraries, environmental services and transport.

In making their forecasts the Association of Metropolitan Authorities is using the reports of an expenditure steering group looking at the implications for local government expenditure of the latest public expenditure White Paper.

Mr Smart's statement has been timed for consideration at a conference of the association in Manchester later this week. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is to address the conference on Thursday.

Young 'are neglected by quality papers'

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The editor of *The Times* should be ashamed of the way he neglects children, Mrs Evelyn Whaley says in this month's issue of the magazine *Report* published by the Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association.

Mrs Whaley, chairman of the association's primary school committee and deputy head of Annfield First School in Dudley, Tyne and Wear, is reporting on the survey of children's reading habits carried out by her committee.

Children see a remarkable number of newspapers, she concludes, but they concentrate on television programme schedules, cartoons, front-page pictures, the sports pages and their horoscopes because "they find nothing serious really aimed at their level of interest."

Mrs Whaley is most critical of the "quality" newspapers, barely mentioned by children in the survey. "The *Guardian* has a women's page," she writes. "Why should it not have a children's page? Come to that, what does either *The Times* or *The Daily Telegraph* do for young readers? Newspaper editors should consider it a scandal that, compared with television, they make so little impact upon the young."

The survey revealed the continuing popularity of children's comics. The 400 children aged from 5 to 11 who completed the survey mentioned 63 titles which they read. "It really is remarkable that we know so little about such a powerful children's folk culture," Mrs Whaley says.

The frequency with which children mention comic strips, cartoons and jokes in newspapers echoed their taste for comics, jokes and cartoons in papers might be there to ponder to adult nostalgia for childish reading habits.

"How many adult comics, which pass themselves off as newspapers have achieved their mass circulation by appealing to their consumers, since childhood and doing little to encourage them out of it," she asks.

Mrs Whaley concludes that children look at many newspapers, but there is no evidence that they read them. Some children's reasons for looking at newspapers were disconcertingly laconic. A Liverpool junior gave his reason as: "Interested in people getting killed, etc."

If children's readership of newspapers is not encouraged, Mrs Whaley argues, children can grow up with very little interest in what is happening in the world and what it means.

MPs ask minister to stop GLC selling property

By Jacob Ecclestone

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has been asked by two London MPs to intervene in the sale of land and property by the Greater London Council.

It was reported last week that the leaders of the Conservative Party group controlling the GLC were drawing up plans to sell more than 1,100 sites for over £1,000m before the local council elections next May.

Mr Frank Dobson, Labour MP for Camden, Holborn and St Pancras, South, has written to the Minister asking him to withhold approval for the sale of GLC property - originally acquired under compulsory purchase orders until the outcome of a general review of procedures has been published.

Mr Heseltine, in a written parliamentary answer to Mr Dobson in June, said his department was carrying out such a review.

Mr Edward Graham, Labour MP for Enfield, Edmonton, has also asked the Minister to use his powers to halt "this scandalous state of affairs."

Mr Richard Brew, deputy leader of the GLC, last week described as "nonsense" reports that it was planning to sell hundreds of sites. Mr Brew said that it had been Conservative policy since 1977 to sell surplus holdings.

Treasury reveals the internal history of the 1947 convertibility crisis

Run on the pound that set the postwar pattern

By Peter Hennessy

The Treasury has declassified its confidential internal history of the 1947 convertibility crisis, the first postwar run on the pound which set the pattern for a succession of subsequent currency emergencies.

Compiled in 1962 by Sir Hugh Ellis-Rees, who was closely involved in the episode as an assistant secretary in the Treasury's overseas finance branch, the study is cutting and candid about the inadequacy of the United States Government's appreciation of the economic prostration the Second World War had inflicted on the United Kingdom and other European nations.

With difficulty the British Government had secured an American loan in December, 1946, one of whose provisions was that sterling would become freely convertible against the dollar in July, 1947. Once convertibility was restored, the United Kingdom's already scanty dollar reserves were subject to a sharp drain.

The mounting crisis of confidence in the pound led to the suspension of convertibility in August, 1947, and it remained suspended until December, 1958. Looking back, Sir Hugh wrote: "I cannot refrain from making one general remark about the American attitude... What strikes me today as difficult to understand is the apparent indifference to the world economic situation... one is moved to ask how it was possible for the Americans to force the issue on the removal of discrimination against the dollar when they were running a payment surplus of about \$8 billion per annum."

How did they expect the convertibility of sterling to function in such conditions unless all this was merely a device to make the United Kingdom distribute United States dollars to other countries, which would then be reemployed in the purchase of dollar goods?

At one point Sir Hugh, and Sir Roger Makins of the Foreign Office, attempted to brief Sir Hugh Knatchbull-Hugessen, the British Ambassador in Belgium, on what he must do to ease the Treasury's plight.

Recalling August 29, 1947, Sir Hugh Ellis-Rees wrote: "Sir Roger Makins and I met Sir H. Knatchbull-Hugessen at the Goring Hotel at 10 pm and for nearly an hour I tried to explain in the simplest language, with full support from Sir Roger, what it was all about. At the end of it, however, the Ambassador confessed he was quite unable to understand what we were talking about... for on these economic questions I am but a fool."

Sir Hugh, despite his economic illiteracy, seems to have done his duty, however. On his return to Brussels, he reminded the Belgian Government of how much the country owed to Britain during the war, and its ministers appear to have heeded his words.

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First child costs more than £32,000, get consumer group says

From Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

For a couple with average earnings, a first child could cost more than £32,000 over an 18-year period, according to the *Which?* Book of Money, published today by Consumers' Association. Having two children could cost about £48,500.

These figures are calculated on the basis of the average cost of living in 1979, and are based on the assumption that the child will be brought up in the family home, and that the parents will be able to find a job when the child is born.

None the less, the book says that the cost of a first child is likely to be determined by the needs of the child, and the needs of the family. Starting a family inevitably means a change of lifestyle, and those who want to start a family are likely to be prepared for the change and to bear the cost of it.

Costs vary greatly with individual circumstances, but on average about 18p in each pound spent by a family with one child goes on supporting the child up to the age of 18. Two children would take 28p from each pound expended.

Families with low incomes are likely to spend a higher proportion of income supporting their children, and the better-off often choose to do so.

On average a family earning £6,000 a year and spending the whole of its take-home pay would spend £850 a year supporting one child and £1,300 on two.

That compares with an estimate elsewhere in the book, that the total annual cost of running a car varies from

£1,390 for a Mini 1000 to £5,520 for a Jaguar XJ 5.3.

The costs of having children are not spread evenly over the years. They are particularly heavy when the first child is born, and as children grow, the number of pence in the pound spent on them rises, up to 26p for a child in the 16 to 17 age group.

For a couple with about average earnings of £6,000 for the husband and £4,000 for the wife, assuming that the wife returns to work at her old rate of pay after five years, the cost of one child works out thus: Loss of wife's take-home pay for five years, £14,000; spending on child, £23,000; less state benefits, £5,000; net cost, £32,000.

For two children, born two years apart and assuming the wife returns to work after seven years, the calculation is: Loss of wife's take-home pay for seven years, £19,600; spending on two children, £38,400; less state benefits, £9,500; net cost, £48,500.

To ease the burden the book suggests that couples planning to start a family should consider saving the wife's income while she is still working, or by a "high-start mortgage" when buying their home and moving to a larger house before the children are born.

Once the wife has to stop work they are urged to claim all the allowances and social security benefits that they can.

The *Which?* Book of Money (from bookshops or Subscriptions Department, Consumers' Association, Caxton Hill, Hertford SG1 7LZ, £9.95 including postage and packing).

Welsh increase pressure to reverse TV decision

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Increased pressure will be put on the Government this week to reconsider the decision to break its manifesto promise to establish a Welsh television service on the fourth channel.

More than 2,000 people are expected to take part in a demonstration in Cardiff tomorrow, led by Dafydd Iwan, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, and by Dafydd Iwan, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, and by Dafydd Iwan, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth.

Court charged with the offence. He has decided not to plead to the charge but to expect to be fined after a formal plea of not guilty has been entered for him by the clerk of the court.

"I hope to be allowed to make a statement explaining my actions," he said. "I have not yet decided whether I will go to prison although I expect it would be a simple matter to extract any fine from my parliamentary salary."

Less than a month Mr. Gwynfor Evans, the party's president, intends to begin a fast to death unless the Government honours its original pledge. Cabinet ministers know that that will attract international publicity. Privately, they rue the commitment they made to establish the service.

There is also the possibility that Mr. Evans' death might be used by the opposition to attack the Government.

used by some extremists to justify a wave of direct action violence.

A protest by Mr. William Whitehead, Home Secretary, to consider putting Welsh programmes on one channel if the proposed mixture of Welsh and English on two channels is unacceptable, has been rejected by Mr. Evans.

The moral, political and financial aspects of the issue will be aired again on Wednesday when Mr. Whitehead is due to meet the Archbishop of Wales, Dr. G. O. Williams, Lord Cledwyn, a former Labour minister, and Sir Gwynfor Daniel, former Secretary to the Welsh Office and principal of University College, Aberystwyth.

On Saturday in Cardiff Mr. Evans received a prolonged ovation from more than 1,500 supporters as he addressed the first of a series of rallies.

Mr. Evans, vice-president of Plaid Cymru, said: "We are continually being exhorted to use constitutional means in our campaigns. What could be more constitutional than the approval of four official committees? Privately, they rue the commitment they made to establish the service."

There is also the possibility that Mr. Evans' death might be used by the opposition to attack the Government.

ITN journalists to meet over dismissal threat

By a Staff Reporter

Journalists at Independent Television News are expected to meet today to consider a management threat of dismissal if they do not cooperate with the use of new equipment from September 22.

They are reported to be seeking an extra 6 per cent pay to cover extra pressures created by the introduction of the machinery.

On Friday the national executive council of the National Union of Journalists decided to support the ITN staff.

The union is the centre of the dispute is Electronic News Gathering (ENG) which speeds the process of getting news on to the television screens. ITN and the BBC have been negotiating to introduce the equipment for some time.

Yesterday Capital Radio's headquarters in the centre of London was picketed for the fourth consecutive day by members of production and engineering staff who are in dispute over pay proposals.

More than 50 members of the Association of Cinematograph Television and Technical Artists walked out last week.

Arts magazines seek buyers to avoid closure

By Martin Huckerby

By *Rolling Stone*, *Playboy* and *Play* and the other arts magazines owned by Hanson Books, which are in deep financial difficulties, are expected to be sold in the next two weeks.

Mr. Philip Doss, director of the company, said over the weekend.

Discussions were going on with people interested in buying the magazines. However, some of those involved would be interested in buying some of the titles, so he could not say whether any sale would mean the survival of all seven magazines.

The monthly magazines, which include *Films and Filming*, *Music and Musicians*, *Art and Artists*, *Dance and Dancers*, and *Records and Recording*, are in difficulties because of mounting production and circulation costs.

Mr. Doss would not disclose the circulation figures for each publication, but he said the strongest, *Films and Filming* and *Play*, had the highest circulation.

Separate attempts are being made to ensure the survival of *Dance and Dancers* by its editorial staff.

Schoolgirls accept rubella immunization after lecture

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Many schoolgirls are not being immunized against German measles because they do not realize the dangers of the disease, an article in the *British Medical Journal* states.

Experiments in which schoolgirls were told how German measles (rubella) contracted in pregnancy can cause severe damage to the unborn child led to a sharp increase in acceptance of the vaccine.

Schools offering immunization usually provide an explanatory letter and consent form for girls to take home for their parents to sign. Many fail to return the form because of lack of motivation.

A controlled trial to increase immunization was carried out among 944 schoolgirls aged between 11 and 12, at seven inner London comprehensive schools in the South West Thames Regional Health Authority's area.

The schoolgirls were in two groups. In the first, immunization was offered in the normal way; but in the second, a brief talk about rubella, illustrated with five slides showing rubella-damaged babies, was given.

The acceptance of immunization among those girls who were given the talk was 93 per cent compared with 75 per cent in the control group.

Dr. S. A. M. Jones, senior registrar in community medicine with the authority, says in the article that normal acceptance rates in the United Kingdom vary between 61 per cent and 81 per cent. That could be considerably improved by simple health education provided at low cost.

He concludes: "The health education programme was effective in inducing enthusiasm and interest in the girls that lasted long enough for them to make sure that parental consent was obtained and to appear in school on the day of immunization."



Standing on a beer crate, a sober-suited Herr Schmidt gets the message across in Dortmund.

Ruhr rally shows Social Democrats' overriding concern for détente

Schmidt confidence in October poll victory

From Patricia Clough, Dortmund, Sept 7

There were miles of hot sausages and was full of beer and there was dachshund playing in the grass. There were fanfares and Alpen horns, jazz bands and oompah bands. Small faces grew red with toffee apple and balloons floated up into the sky.

And when the speeches came there were ovations for Herr Helmut Schmidt and for Herr Willy Brandt and jeers at the mention of the name of Herr Franz Josef Strauss.

The Social Democrats had arranged yesterday's huge jamboree in Dortmund's Westfalenpark, in the heart of the industrial Ruhr, to rally their members round the flag for the final "hot phase" of the campaign for the October 5 elections.

Instead of being treated to rousing pep talks, the 100,000-strong crowd found the party leaders relaxed, good-humoured and confident in their belief that they will win. It was a

cheerful, self-congratulatory celebration of 13 years in power with the near certainty that four more years to come.

The thought that Herr Schmidt was not an excellent Chancellor and Herr Strauss his rival, the party could well be out on its ear, was not allowed to mar that sunny afternoon.

There was Herr Brandt, the party chairman and the darling of the crowds, fit, tanned and smiling in the golden evening sun. There was Herr Schmidt, the silver-haired statesman, sober in a grey three-piece suit, exuding confidence that if things were left to him all would be well.

There was Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Austria's Social Democrat Chancellor, whose discourse on world affairs provided the touch of heavy rhetoric without which no self-respecting German voter feels he has had his money's worth.

The steelworkers and the miners and beam-makers of the Ruhr left no doubt that fear of war was their first concern, and

that Herr Schmidt's fight to maintain détente in Europe was right for them.

"We never want war again," exclaimed Herr Brandt amid deafening applause from the crowd. "We will fight so that the fires of crisis do not burn again in Europe."

"The world situation is difficult and serious," Herr Schmidt said more soberly, remarking that the fact that the great powers were once again talking to each other was largely due to his efforts. "It is better to talk for a thousand hours than to shoot for one," he said amid more applause.

Herr Strauss's supporters are claiming that West Germany is heading for a currency reform, the Chancellor said in tones of decision. "Was not the mark the second hardest currency in the world after the Swiss franc?" he asked. "Was not West Germany one of the most stable countries in the world? Were its salaries and wages not among the highest in the world? Did West Germany not have the biggest

foreign currency reserve of the whole world?"

The Ruhr workers in their expensive suede jackets and lambswool sweaters cheerfully nodded their approval.

"Strauss is confused, Strauss is puffed up, Strauss is uncontrolled and unpredictable," Herr Brandt declared and the crowd roared its agreement.

"Strauss cannot control himself. How can we let him have control over us?" Herr Schmidt asked and again the crowd agreed.

As the sun set the crowd began to sing a Social Democrat campaign song. Families with small children drifted off home and the lights went on in the beer and hot dog stalls and the evening's drinking began.

Nix week, same time, same place, Herr Strauss and the opposition leaders will have their big rally. But in the meantime as far as the Social Democrat supporters are concerned it is right with the world and on October 5 it is going to stay that way.

Boulogne fishermen search for funds to support families during the strike

From Our Correspondent, Paris, Sept 7

Boulogne fishermen went to the big annual jamboree in Lille tonight to raise money to support their eight-week-old strike.

Although the fishermen voted convincingly on Friday not to return to work, their long stoppage has left many of their families destitute at a time when they badly need extra money to buy equipment for children going back to school.

A special meeting of the fishermen's wives has accordingly been called for tomorrow to identify the households who are in particular financial difficulty because of the dispute.

Apart from their fund-raising visit to the famous braderie (annual sale) at Lille this evening, the men are organizing collections in Calais, Berck, Saint-Etienne-Mont, and Bihuc. One or two towns in the area, which have Communist or Socialist mayors, have already announced they will organize special fund-raising fairs for the fishermen.

French start spy hunt after general's arrest

From Ian Murray, Paris, Sept 7

General Reinehdorf, retired head of the East German intelligence service for spying, was arrested by the French counter-intelligence service for spying. He was arrested in Lille on August 19, but this was made public only yesterday.

The three weeks between the arrest and its announcement have been used by the French spy-catchers to try to trace the "moles" who were thought to be supplying the general with information. When he was caught he was apparently carrying secret material on French tanks and anti-tank weapons.

Earlier this year two diplomats at the East German Embassy in Paris were expelled from France after the arrest of a chemist at the French Oil Institute who was accused of passing on information about French contingency oil supply stocks.

In January last year M Rolf Dobbertin, a scientist at the National Scientific Research Centre was arrested for passing information to the East Germans.

General Zorn is a former Luftwaffe pilot who fled to the Soviet Union in 1944 and subsequently made a career with the East German Air Force. According to French counter-intelligence, he applied to work for his Government as a spy after he was obliged to retire three years ago, at the age of 65.

The general's arrival in France was on his own and had a tour of duty, apparently aroused the suspicions of the authorities and a close watch was kept on him up to the time he was arrested.

Statue of Monty unveiled in Brussels

From Frederick Bonart, Brussels, Sept 7

A statue of Field Marshal Montgomery was unveiled here today by Mr. Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, and General Sir Jack Harman, deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, in a square bearing the field marshal's name.

In brilliant sunshine the bands of the Grenadier Guards and the Royal Artillery in full dress uniform, as well as the Archbishop of Canterbury, Regent, played the two national anthems as the British and Belgian flags were drawn down from the massive bronze statue showing Montgomery in battle dress, and his familiar black beret.

It had been placed there on the initiative of the Belgian British Union which had raised the funds.

In a short address, Major-General H. F. Belchem, Montgomery's former chief-of-staff, recalled the liberation of Brussels on September 3, 1944, by the troops of the Guards Armoured Division, and the Right Rev. Harold Isherwood, the Anglican Bishop in Belgium, read a message from the Archbishop of Canterbury, remembering in particular those who had given their lives during the campaign.

The ceremony, which attracted a crowd of more than 1,000, was held in the framework of the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Belgian independence for which this Sunday had been declared "British Day".

M Chirac fights state over site for Arab centre

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, Sept 7

A Paris sportsfield has become the latest battleground between the French Government and M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader and Mayor of Paris.

The dispute is over the state's decision to convert the ground, which it leased to Paris, into an Islamic institute. The main work is to begin next month to convert it into an Arabic and Islamic cultural centre.

The project began five years ago, when the state acquired the site and earmarked it for that purpose.

The institute was formally set up in February on the initiative of the French Government. Nineteen Arab states agreed to participate in its construction. The Government, having initiated the project, is particularly anxious that the Arab states involved should be satisfied with the institute.

But Paris has decided to fight the proposal to build the insti-

Chileans deny woman was forced to watch torture

Continued from page 1

consul had demanded access to her.

Four days later, on July 22, Miss Wilson left her court deposition at the embassy. On that day Britain announced that arms would again be sold to Chile, lifting the embargo applied in 1974 because of Chile's record on human rights.

On July 29, a note of protest was delivered to the Chilean Foreign Ministry, expressing concern at the methods of interrogation and declaring that Miss Wilson appeared to have suffered physical ill-treatment as well as mental anguish, particularly when forced to watch the torture of her friend.

A protest was also made to the Chilean ambassador in London on August 6 and it is understood that the Chileans say the man and woman are unfounded.

Yesterday Mr. Gaspar Desmond, director of the British section of Amnesty International, said the organisation had set a term of 48 hours for the case, until late last week, but they had heard of Señor González, through "channels". They recently wrote to the Foreign Office asking the man and woman to be released last week.

Mr. Desmond said: "They replied to us about the case and said nothing about her. Why were they not asked about it? We will call on the Foreign Office to investigate and find out what happened and what they are doing to go about it and other cases."

Miss Judith Hart, MP for

Unexpected offer of talks made by Cairo

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Sept 7

Egypt today unexpectedly invited Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, for talks in Cairo on issues outstanding between the two governments. Negotiations were going ahead with Cairo late tonight on the date of the visit.

The invitation from Mr. Butros Ghali, acting Foreign Minister, came shortly after Israeli ministers expressed concern that Egypt was going back on its word in failing to implement its commitment set out in the 1970 treaty to press ahead with negotiating an "early" end to the nuclear arms race.

Despite two extra days, deep divergences of this issue prevented the four-week conference from producing a consensus document summarizing its work. It was the first time a major United Nations meeting of this kind had been thrown off course by such determined insistence on the part of those nations.

For the group of 77 developing countries, Mr. Ignatius Fonseca (Sri Lanka) said the treaty negotiated in the 1960s contained a balance of obligations and responsibilities. While countries ratifying the treaty and thus renouncing their option to acquire nuclear weapons were exempted from observing their obligations, the super powers were still extending their weapons capabilities.

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Pledge to end nuclear arms race not yet kept

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, Sept 7

The second review conference of the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons was wound up today with developing and non-aligned nations criticising the United States and the Soviet Union for failing to implement their commitment set out in the 1970 treaty to press ahead with negotiating an "early" end to the nuclear arms race.

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Himalayan trek by Hillary son

Two New Zealanders, Mr. Graham Dingle and Mr. Peter Hillary, son of Sir Edmund, and two other mountaineers plan to traverse the Himalayan range, a 2,500-mile trek expected to take 300 days.

Cheaper flights to Far East

British Airways announced yesterday that, given Government approval, it will be cutting fares to the Far East.

Between October 15 and the end of November, it is possible to fly to Hong Kong for £149 "single" and £288 return providing the tickets are bought at least 14 days before departure.

OVERSEAS

Mr Brezhnev reminds new Polish leader of 'communist duty'

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Sept 7

The Soviet leadership swiftly congratulated Mr Stanislaw Kania, the new Polish party leader, this weekend, warmly praising what Moscow called his commitment to strengthening socialism in Poland and his country's links with the Soviet Union.

President Brezhnev told Mr Kania in a telegram that he displayed "a principled attitude, courage and high consciousness of communist duty". The Soviet leader expressed the conviction that under the guidance of the Communist Party, Poland would soon overcome its difficulties and unite in the struggle for the ideas of socialism.

The Brezhnev message suggests that the Russians have been reassured by Mr Kania's unexpected appointment, but by emphasizing his commitment to "proletarian internationalism" and Poland's "inviolable friendship" with the Soviet Union and other East European countries, the Russians have given the new leader a clear reminder of where they believe his priorities should lie.

Moscow was slow to report the abrupt resignation of Mr Edward Gierek, the former party leader, and Mr Kania's election, suggesting that the Russians had little prior warning of the impending change. But this change can only be welcome. Although the Soviet leaders had come to know and respect Mr Gierek, they appeared to be exasperated by his concessions to the striking workers on free trade unions and the right to strike, which have still not been reported in the Soviet press.

More worrying, they believed he had lost control of the situation. And in the harsh realities of communist politics, that meant he had to go. But the Russians today gave an unexpectedly clear signal of their respect at his departure and appreciation of his past leadership. A brief report by Tass said the Soviet Ambassador in Warsaw had conveyed to him "the sympathy and wishes for an early recovery" from Mr Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders.

In recent years the Russians valued Mr Gierek's good relations with the West, and had used these to pursue their calls for détente in Europe, especially in the wake of Afghanistan. Mr Kania may not be well known in the West or to the Poles themselves, but his record has been closely studied by the Russians, who keep a close watch on the activities of all leading politicians in the Warsaw Pact countries.

Toughness and pragmatism mark Kania approach

From Dossa Trevisan

Belgrade, Sept 7

During the Polish crisis, while authorities were negotiating the Baltic crisis, the name of Stanislaw Kania was mentioned in the press more often than that of Mr Gierek or any other leading communist.

Yet no one seriously thought he might be in line for Mr Gierek's post. In fact, it seems to have been obvious all along.

Mr Kania played a prominent role in the efforts to find a way out of the crisis without resorting to force and is in fact thought to have advised against it at a time when the authorities adamantly refused to concede the strikers' demands.

He has been a politburo member in charge of public security for several years and together with Mr Jagielski, brought the negotiations to a successful end.

He was the speaker at the central committee meeting on August 24 when the party members lost their posts and seemed in charge throughout the latter stages of the crisis when Mr Gierek's authority continued to decline.

Mr Kania submitted the major report on security at the plenary meeting of the Central Committee which he conducted and was again present when Mr Gierek made regional party secretaries last week.

On August 31 when the Polish Central Committee met to approve the agreement reached in Szczecin and Gdansk, Mr Kania again conducted the proceedings. Mr Gierek took no part in discussions. It is not known whether he was opposed to the agreement, but it is known that Mr Kania recommended it.

Outside politics, he is only a name. Even Western observers who have spent many years in Poland know little about him. Roman Catholic church circles

know him as a negotiator who has been closely associated with Mr Gierek's efforts to improve relations with the church and a man whom church negotiators found tough.

His attitude to dissidents is a combination of tolerance and toughness, but there were signs during negotiations in Gdansk that he would not hesitate to take stern action when the mark is crossed.

Mr Kania represents that new generation of communist leaders who have grown up with the system and who know it inside out. The way held by party theoreticians has been over since the sixties and the ruling group in Poland is now rooted in industry; more technicians than economists, more pragmatists than ideologists.

Mr Kania was born in 1927 in the village of Wrocanka and started work at the age of 15. This was his political career coincided with the war and the resistance in Poland. He joined the peasant battalion and, after the war, the Polish Communist Party.

Mr Edmund Muskie, the Secretary of State, said today that Mr Kania's appointment as the new Polish party leader, appeared to be a "conservative pragmatist" who would keep his predecessor's promises to Polish workers. He said that the new arrangements would probably last.

Mr Muskie, who was being interviewed on television, was asked about the appropriate measures the West lending money to Poland. The Poles have asked for \$675m (about £280m) in agricultural credits for next year, and Mr Muskie said that the loan was under consideration before the Baltic workers' strikes. The original loan sought by Poland was \$550m and final approval had not yet been given.

He suggested, however, that it was the view of the American Government that Polish and Western interests would best be served by making the loan and giving the Warsaw authorities further assistance.

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Indians not surprised to learn of witnesses for whom perjury has become a way of life

They promise to tell lies, nothing but lies, so help the police

From Trevor Fishlock

Delhi, Sept 7

During the past 20 years a man was a prosecution witness in the Delhi courts on hundreds of occasions. He never actually saw any of the crimes that were the subjects of the cases in which he appeared—but that was of little consequence.

He was one of the number of stock witnesses used by the police to tell lies and secure convictions.

Stock witnesses are part of the lubrication of Indian criminal law machinery, and without considerable reform in the law, the police and procedure, it is difficult to see how they can be abolished.

Such witnesses are usually small-time street traders, snick and drink pedlars and the like, who pay regular bribes to policemen in order to trade free of police harassment.

After forming this kind of business relationship with the police, some of them carry out perjury as a sideline.

The Indian Express has just published the names of 20 stock witnesses, the types of offences in which they have given evidence, and the police stations which used them. Compilation of the list began after one of them forged his lines during a case and a police officer admitted that the man had testified in a number of cases.

The newspaper also interviewed the champion witness, who was able to prove his complicity in the corruption he had been producing 4,000 witnesses.

Like the other stock witnesses he was used for much of the time in fairly small drinking, gambling and theft cases. But these men have also appeared in much more serious cases.

The man who was, in a way, a part-time professional witness, has now fallen out with the police and has refused to go to court for them any more. The police have responded by bringing some charges against him (complete with witnesses) and he is now taking the matter to the Supreme Court.

The scandal of stock witnesses does not provoke widespread cries of outrage. People merely shrug their shoulders because the reputation of the police is already low. Seventy-seven years ago a police commission report said: "The police force is generally regarded as corrupt and oppressive and it has failed to secure the confidence and cooperation of the people."

Not much has changed. The police are feared, rather than respected, and they remain much as they were under British rule, essentially a colonial force, repressive and out of tune with the people they are meant to serve.

Considering the well reported incidents of violence and high handedness in which the police are involved, it is not surprising that there are few people speaking up for policemen in India. Yet their task is extraordinarily difficult in a huge, complex and sometimes volatile society. They are not well paid, well housed or well trained, and their ranks contain relatively few men of high calibre.

Those who support the police say that a wide range of reforms is overdue.

Bribery is not, of course, confined to the police force—it is part and parcel of many of the bureaucratic processes. As for stock witnesses, policemen find themselves hamstrung by the nineteenth-century law under which their word has to be supported by the testimony of two honest men to have any value in court. Policemen are expected to bring criminals to book, but being handicapped in this task, often resort to illegal means to secure results.

The Zim Government is considering moving up to 17,000 former guerrillas from camps scattered round the country to the Chitungwiza township on the outskirts of Salisbury.

A special Cabinet committee is studying the idea and more than 1,700 houses have been set aside in this new township for the soldiers.

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Outcry over Zimbabwe plan to move guerrillas

From Frederick Cleary

Salisbury, Sept 7

The Zimbabwe Government is considering moving up to 17,000 former guerrillas from camps scattered round the country to the Chitungwiza township on the outskirts of Salisbury.

A special Cabinet committee is studying the idea and more than 1,700 houses have been set aside in this new township for the soldiers.

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Mr Hua Guofeng, the Chinese Prime Minister, addressing the National People's Congress in Peking yesterday. During his two-hour speech Mr Hua called for a wide range of reforms and stronger trade unions.

Iran President omits Premier's nominees from Cabinet list

Tehran, Sept 7.—President

Bani-Sadr today presented the Iranian Parliament with a truncated Cabinet list after chopping out a third of the nominees, including all the key economic appointments, because of doubts over their qualifications.

In a letter read to the Majlis (Parliament), he approved only 14 candidates for the 21-man Cabinet, led by Mr Mohammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister.

The bulk of the casualties were the youthful revolutionaries proposed by Mr Rajai for the Ministries of Economics and Finance, Plan and Budget Organization, Labour and Social Affairs, and Oil.

He also omitted Mr Hossein Mousavi, the proposed Foreign Affairs Minister. Mr Mousavi, aged 39, as editor of the daily newspaper of the clergy-dominated Islamic Republican Party, has consistently opposed Mr Bani-Sadr's policies.

After a heated debate on the constitutional validity of Mr Bani-Sadr's move, Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Speaker, instructed Mr Rajai to select the cabinet members.

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The Prime Minister appeared to have little choice but to follow this directive, but he made clear today in an interview with the Islamic Republic that he was dissatisfied with an incomplete Cabinet.

"It is not possible to take serious decisions with this number of people. Having a Cabinet in the form is no different from not having a Cabinet," he said.

A week-long deadlock between Mr Rajai and Mr Bani-Sadr over the Cabinet list was broken on Friday when Ayatollah Khomeini, the revolutionary leader, told the President to approve those nominees he agreed to and decide on the others later.

It remains unclear how the dispute will end, but Ayatollah Rafsanjani announced that the next Majlis session on Tuesday would be entirely devoted to debating the qualifications of the ministers approved by the President.

This looks likely to delay discussion of the American hostage crisis. The Majlis foreign affairs commission, was expected to recommend soon the assembly start debating the embassy hostages' fate.

Judge attacked: Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, who has been responsible for the execution of hundreds of Iranians since last year's revolution, escaped an apparent assassination attempt in northern Iran yesterday, the state radio reported.

The Islamic judge escaped unhurt when his car was ambushed by what the radio called insurgents near the town of Hashapur on the Caspian coast.

Paper reveals: The Communist Party daily paper, Mardom, can continue to publish, after its officials answered questions about the newspaper, a government spokesman said yesterday.

Border fighting: Iran used Phantom fighters and Cobra helicopters in battles along the border with Iraq over the weekend, the official Pars news agency reported today.

The Air Force went into action after Iraqi planes were said to have attacked the towns of Hasab and Qasr-e-Shirin. The agency said one Iraqi helicopter was shot down and all Iranian aircraft returned to base safely. Iraq was reported to have suffered heavy casualties, but no figures were given.

The latest clashes are among the heaviest reported by Iran since the cross-border skirmishes began last April.

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Prisoners of conscience



Romania: Gheorghe Brasoveanu

By Caroline Moorhead

Gheorghe Brasoveanu, an economist, is now in Galati prison serving a three-and-a-half-year sentence, apparently for his involvement in founding a new union—the Free Trade Union of Romanian Workers (SLOMR)—wholly independent of the Government and critical of its policies.

He is believed to have spent some time in Jilava prison's psychiatric hospital after his arrest in March, 1979, when relatives were persuaded to sign a declaration that he was insane under threat that the alternative to confinement in a psychiatric institution would be a long term of imprisonment.

The existence of SLOMR dates from February, 1979, when a group of intellectuals and workers in Bucharest and Turcu Severin produced a manifesto drawing attention to the growing unemployment and to the forced retirement of dissenters on psychiatric grounds.

The union called for better working conditions and higher safety standards, an end to unpaid compulsory overtime and the abolition of privileges for Communist Party workers. SLOMR's aims won support from workers in several large Romanian cities, as well as from a clandestine "Union of Workers, Peasants and Soldiers" in the region of Mures, in Transylvania.

Two days after the SLOMR manifesto was broadcast on a foreign radio station, the telephone of Mr Brasoveanu, one of the movement's representatives, was cut off. Four days later he was arrested.

Monsoon rains in India cause 181 deaths

Delhi, Sept 7.—At least 181 deaths were reported in northern and eastern India at the weekend after monsoon rains caused floods and landslides.

A total of 114 deaths were reported from Uttar Pradesh, where the toll since the flooding began in June rose to 1,203. Thousands of villages have been flooded.

The rains caused breaks in power and communication lines, and damaged roads and railways. In Bihar state, 30 people drowned when a boat capsized.

In the Darjeeling district of west Bengal landslides all but wiped out two villages with a total population of about 1,000. The Press Trust of India news agency said. Officials said 37 bodies had been recovered and that others might be buried in the debris.

Damage to crops and property was estimated at about £50m. Thousands of passengers were stranded at rural railway stations—BAP and UPL.

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Election shock for New Zealand Government

From Our Correspondent

Wellington, Sept 7

The New Zealand Government suffered an unexpected setback when it lost a by-election at East Coast Bays yesterday to the Social Credit party. The Auckland seat had long been regarded as a National Party stronghold.

The ruling party was confident of retaining the seat when the sitting MP Mr Frank Gill was appointed ambassador to the States.

The Government still retains a majority of eight in the House of Representatives. The Labour Party has 40 seats and the Social Credit League has two.

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Aid chief pinpoints a tragedy

The war between Ethiopia and Somalia has produced the greatest refugee tragedy since the First World War. Mr Richard Norton, director International Christian Relief, said yesterday.

He has returned from a visit to a camp in Harard, where his organisation is giving medicine and food to 25,000 refugees.

"The best people's flight was more dramatic but it happened over a short period. This has been going on since 1977," Mr Norton said. "At least a million people are involved—the highest estimates are two million."

The victims of the war, nomads who had lived on either side of the Ethiopia-Somalia border for centuries, would "die like flies" were it not for Western aid, he said.

The Somali government tried to help them before the war, but now it is simply overwhelmed. Ethiopia is trying to drive them into Somalia, to break the economy," he added.

Cholera and tuberculosis were the main diseases and one of the biggest problems was keeping the water supply clean. Measles and whooping cough were causing severe problems among the children. A thousand children had died.

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Book review

People we pretend not to know

Nuns and Soldiers

By Iris Murdoch

(Chatto & Windus, £6.50)

Comfortably reading, you turn a page. Zap. Without warning the stomach seems to slip its moorings; focus skids wildly on the next sentence and on the world outside the book. It is the next sentence that we should know by now that there are more things in Iris Murdoch's novels than are dreamt of in most philosophies. One of them is that Irish eye of hers for about the Irish call a right fright.

Another is her sure handling of the supernatural. Sheer wordcraft makes us believe, with Anne in *Nuns and Soldiers*, that a vision of the living Christ in Anne's small London kitchen. She goes in, we go with her; and He is there. Less explicit, but scarcely less powerful, an assault upon comfortable contemporary consciousness is a pitted, pallid disc in rock, geological phenomenon on a dark cliffside, exuding water. Water (we should also know by now) is a recurring Murdoch image of mystery and danger. It gleams, shudders, flows fast through events here; keeper of its own subterranean and our unacknowledged secrets.

Nuns and Soldiers is Miss Murdoch's 20th expedition into the primeval jungle of our secret lives: her first since she won the Booker Prize for *The Sea, The Sea* two years ago. Her characters are people we pretend not to know; especially not in the bathroom mirror. The book is as clear and as shuddering as the radiant pool silently renewing itself from some mysterious source below the "great face" on the rock. It is about lies: those who tell lies and who do not; loss of dignity and purpose in lies of commission; illusions of honour which lies pretend to balance; the confederacy of lies, there, open, unacknowledged, in lies or silent misery. Everywhere, from elegant Ebury Street to a pub called the Prince of Denmark.

A taste of Gordon Honeycombe

After their catastrophic opening last week with the O'Toole *Macbeth*, the new Old Vic company are playing something safer with their second production of the season which opens on Wednesday. Though in stage terms a "world premiere", Gordon Honeycombe's *Lancelot and Guinevere* has already been a considerable success for its director Martin Jenkins on Radio 4, and the crucial role of the storytelling Malory will be played on stage as it was on radio by Timothy West.

Ironically this production, on which the Vic management must now be pinning at least some of its hopes, was originally conceived only as a filler to play on midweek days when it was thought, presciently enough, that a double dose of *Macbeth* might be too much even for its own cast. But for Gordon Honeycombe, an actor turned TV newscaster turned novelist, this is merely the latest in an ambitious series of dramatic adaptations that began while he was an Oxford undergraduate in the early 1950s. "I did a version of the *Miracle* plays using a hundred students from my college, and that led to a dramatization of *The Redemptio* which the Royal Shakespeare Company staged for three Sundays in Southwark Cathedral. Then I did a stage version of *Paradise Lost*, and that in turn was done on Radio 4 by Martin Jenkins when the BBC discovered it was some sort of anti-versary of Milton's death and thought they ought to mark it in some way."

Honeycombe and Jenkins had originally met, however, as fellow actors. "We were both Knight Lear at Stratford in the days just after university when I thought I was going to be an actor, and then years later, after *Paradise Lost* had been a success on radio, I began to think of other media for my adaptation, and an actor friend pointed me towards the 880 pages of Malory's *Morte d'Arthur*, which was already on my bookshelf as I'd been given it for a prize in my last year at school. Reading it again, I realized that it would really only make dramatic sense to concentrate on the last four books, the ones that tell the story of Lancelot and Guinevere, though my version does also include the earlier all the knights and the collapse of the Round Table and Arthurian Britain. As with *Paradise Lost*, I had to decide where the drama and the dialogue really lay, and then build from that."

Honeycombe rejects utterly my suggestion that what we are then left with is *Camelot* without the songs:

"It's entirely set in 1469, in Malory's cell in Newgate prison where he had been sent



after, unwise changing sides in the middle of the Wars of the Roses and backing the losers. There he wrote the *Morte d'Arthur*, effectively the first English novel, and my play is based on the notion that when, close to his death, he finally reaches the end of it, he cannot bear to part with the book so instead he goes back through it, recalling scenes which are then acted out by his fellow prisoners."

Not just *Camelot* without the songs, then, but *Men of La Mancha* as well?

"No, much more serious than that; it's the greatest of all love stories but it's also a play about an author desperate trying to hang on to his own manuscript, one written over four or five years in difficult and sordid prison circumstances."

Honeycombe is now 43, and this will be his first major London production though the face is of course considerably more familiar than that of many more established playwrights, simply because it spent 12 years mouthing news for ITN. He's the son of an old man, born in India but educated at the Edinburgh Academy; from there he went to National Service in Hong Kong, where he started working in off duty hours as a local radio announcer. The money he'd saved from that got him through a first year as an Oxford undergraduate, but at the end of that time he contracted TB and spent the next six months in a hospital bed.

"That was where I began to work on my adaptation of the *Miracle* plays, which was then

produced when I was able to go back to Oxford, and when I left the university I just stayed around the city, trying to decide what I should do with my life. I knew that I wasn't going into Shell or ICI or any of the jobs all my friends seemed to be taking, but at the same time I didn't have any other ideas so I just hung around for a while, acting in student productions (even though technically I'd stopped being a student) and then I decided to try my hand at radio. I'd made it in Hong Kong finally ran out. Then I was saved in the nick of time from bankruptcy by Richard Ingrams and John Duncanson who were setting up a touring theatre company called Tomorrow's Audience. They seemed to think I could act a bit, so I went around with them for a while, playing among other things the title role in the original version of *The Bedchamber*. We played that in convalescent homes, schools, anywhere they'd have us, and after about six months I decided that perhaps I was an actor after all."

"I wrote off to the National got an audition with Olivier who thanked me personally for auditioning, and I was so smitten by that it took me hours to realize he had actually given me a job. When I did realize it I wrote to the RSC, where they gave me one audition and said right, eleven pounds a week, start Monday. What they didn't tell me was that they were already in rehearsal for the Eric Porter *Macbeth* and had realized they didn't have enough spear-carriers even to make up the eight apprentices who are sup-

posed to appear to *Macbeth* so I was fired for spears and eight apprentices, and then I was allowed to hold up *Macbeth*'s head at the very end. After that they let me carry on with my trunk of *Measure* and then an even larger trunk containing Eric Porter in *Cymbeline*, and all to all I stayed for two years with the RSC, standing behind all the great stars of the time. Then I decided to go to the States, to see if I could make something out of myself there. I was paid more than eleven pounds a week and maybe even let you speak on stage occasionally, so I left the RSC and spent an entire year on the 'Globe' appearing twice weekly at Chadwick Street."

"The only job I got in at that time was playing a silent Frankenstein in a Roy Kinnear sketch for *Nor So Much a Programme*, and I reckoned then that my acting career was over. But I was wrong. I was 27-year-old, failed actor, I decided I could at least be one in Australia where at any rate the weather would be warmer. I had decided to emigrate, and was now thinking of leaving before going to Australia. I was to write a letter of some desperation to ITN asking if there was any hope of a job as a newscaster."

There was, and Honeycombe spent the next twelve years reading the news and, on days off, writing the first of the four novels that he now has in print. By 1977, the novels were doing so well in paperback he'd decided he could afford to resign from ITN.

Sheridan Morley

All the elements of success

The Wiz
Crucible, Sheffield

Ned Chaillet

There are some things the American theatre still does best, and the little pockets of British musical expertise, in Sheffield, Leicester and London's Half Moon Theatre, do not really change that. With most American musicals now it is neither the music nor the writing but rather the dancing, the imagination in the choreography and the choral power of the singers that makes a show a success.

The Wiz was tailored for just those things, with the added flash of an all-black cast to make a disco version of *The Wizard of Oz*. There is not much difference between the plot of *The Wiz* and the plot of the Judy Garland film version, though the tornado that lifts Dorothy from Kansas to Oz is a whirlwind of disco dancers and all the landmarks, from the Yellow Brick Road to the poppy field, are played by dancers as well—and well danced for that matter, albeit a bit cautiously.

In New York, however, reviewers would not have seen the show as it appeared on Sheffield's opening night. The machinery is intricate, with witches appearing and dissolving in a forklift-like disappearing in a helicopter and a dog anxious for more rehearsal. In addition to the dances and songs, there are magic tricks and visible shifts of scenery in the open stage. Clockwork is no longer enough to describe Broadway precision; it would have been digitally exact before critics got anywhere near it and the Crucible deserved a week of running in. A lot of the minor faults will be gone in a week, but there were there on the opening night. There was also a massive infusion of energy from the company, many good voices and several very entertaining performances. If it is to be a success, *The Wiz* must be a production further, for instance making the death of the second with something more than a game of catch with a silver streamer, then the fundamental fault becomes Roger Glossop's design for the city of Oz.



Celera Duncan and Oscar James

Particularly in the black context, Oz is an urban contrast to the pastoral attractions of Auntie Em's cabin. It does nothing to suggest a city, though *Delirium*, Clancy's costume designs include Munchkin who are emulated durbins, Oz is only a dance floor with glittering walls, rather like a provincial disco. That might be all right if Mr. James and his choreographer, Gillian Gregory, were otherwise content to be easy and provincial, but *Crucible* productions are frequently superior to West End products and *The Wiz* is no exception. There are weaknesses in the music and lyrics by Charlie Smalls, particularly in the ballads—and Celera Duncan as Dorothy was much applauded for hitting the notes correctly than for what she was singing—and the book

Rigoletto

New, Cardiff

Kenneth Loveland

John Moody's production of *Rigoletto*, introduced at Cardiff in 1977, was intended for the smaller theatres on Welsh National tours, to which purpose Roger Butlin's economic but evocative sets were well suited. So tightly-knit a production deserved its success in the large theatres as well, but there could sometimes appear sparse.

This has been skilfully adjusted in the re-staging seen at Cardiff on Thursday. Mr. Butlin's Rubens-derived, backcloth for Act 1, its suggestion of the atmosphere of cruelty and licence Mr. Moody has moved upstage to permit more fluidity of movement in a scene which, as Mr. Moody sees it, needs plenty. In the ending episodes, subtle redistribution rather than basic alterations open the production out. This is the Haverfordwest *Rigoletto* that has lasted so well given prolonged active life simply by acquiring deepened visual perspectives.

It has always been a *Rigoletto* of social conviction, the underdog championed and his oppressors deplored more than in conventional melodrama. Verdi's insistence on the entombing of the downcast through suffering constantly in Mr. Moody's view.

This anticipates extremes, and gets them. Behind the frenzy of the opening, one suspects an intelligent society heading for decay. Violent too: confronting the courtiers with their crime, Rigoletto is felled by a knee in the vital organs which should have earned Canaris a red card even in Italy.

Rigoletto recovers, and the succeeding trade is the production's high-water mark. Terence Sharpe is the sole survivor of the original cast, and his study of the fester has matured splendidly. His "Cortigiani" is itself a concentration of Rigoletto's transition, growing from fearful protest and humble pleading to final proud dismissal, the servant turned master. The floppy hat of his first appearance, looking like a fugitive from a summer garden party, should be discarded.

Dennis O'Neill's Duke of Mantua has an eloquent Italianate style, *Questa a quella* conclusively thrown off. "La carne è mobile" insolently confident. Norma Burrows is an attractive Gilda with occasional intonation problems, Geoffrey Moss makes a dark Sparafucile. Claire Powell is an alluring Maddalena of much musical promise. Philip Joll is a Montreux who, having been given two explosive entrances, is constantly thrown off. "La carne è mobile" insolently confident. Norma Burrows is an attractive Gilda with occasional intonation problems, Geoffrey Moss makes a dark Sparafucile. Claire Powell is an alluring Maddalena of much musical promise. Philip Joll is a Montreux who, having been given two explosive entrances, is constantly thrown off. "La carne è mobile" insolently confident. Norma Burrows is an attractive Gilda with occasional intonation problems, Geoffrey Moss makes a dark Sparafucile. Claire Powell is an alluring Maddalena of much musical promise. 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McEnroe survives cold-eyed Borg in final

From Oxford, Sept 7. There are times when you are good to us, when the appetite is a gourmet, and even the most experienced tennis player in the world is not immune to the cold-eyed stare of Jimmy Connors. It was yesterday in the semi-final of the men's singles at Wimbledon that the 23-year-old American, who has won 11 of the last 13 Wimbledon titles, was good to us, when the appetite was a gourmet, and even the most experienced tennis player in the world is not immune to the cold-eyed stare of Jimmy Connors. It was yesterday in the semi-final of the men's singles at Wimbledon that the 23-year-old American, who has won 11 of the last 13 Wimbledon titles, was good to us, when the appetite was a gourmet, and even the most experienced tennis player in the world is not immune to the cold-eyed stare of Jimmy Connors.



Connors: another acrimonious match with McEnroe.

not maintain that level of performance. She lost some of her flowing facility, became a little tentative and erratic, while Mr. McEnroe was steadily pounding away, accepting the unvarnished income, slapping all the doors in defence, and in the end, he was the victor. The match was a revelation. The South African, aged 22, was rather like Miss Mandilova in that for one time he refused to allow his opponent to play long baseline rallies. Kriek is fast and agile. He covered everything. Borg hit his way and kept springing the net to play volleyed drops. He varied his game actually. He served well. But two super sets were all he had in him. Some of the best and dazing drained away. He began to spend more time on the baseline. He became inhibited and nervous in his shot-making. Borg previously prone to rush the points and look tactically confused, raised the level of his game when he had to play the first two.

Cricket Taylor given out for obstructing the field

By Richard Smeeton
BIRMINGHAM. Somerset's batsman, Taylor, was given out for obstructing the field during the first day of the County Championship match at Taunton. Taylor was given out for obstructing the field during the first day of the County Championship match at Taunton.

Butcher's blade cuts down Surrey

By John Woodcock
CRICKET. Middlesex beat Surrey by seven wickets. Beyond any question Middlesex established themselves as the team of the season when they overcame Surrey in the final of the Gillette Cup at Lord's on Saturday. This was the eighth year of the Gillette Cup, which was first played in 1973. Middlesex, who had won the cup in 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980, were the defending champions.

Butcher's blade cuts down Surrey. Surrey's batsman, Butcher, was given out for obstructing the field during the first day of the County Championship match at Taunton. Butcher was given out for obstructing the field during the first day of the County Championship match at Taunton.

Favour for Middlesex from cup victims

With Surrey, their Gillette Cup final victims, heading 1-0 in the County Championship, Middlesex were given a boost by the fact that they had won the cup. Middlesex were given a boost by the fact that they had won the cup.

Hendrick not available for W Indies tour

Wendie Hendrick, the 31-year-old Derbyshire fast bowler, has told the Test and County Cricket Board that he will not be available for the West Indies tour. Hendrick has told the Test and County Cricket Board that he will not be available for the West Indies tour.

Hampshire v Middlesex

Hampshire	Middlesex
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Surrey v Leicestershire

Surrey	Leicestershire
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Nottinghamshire v Lancashire

Nottinghamshire	Lancashire
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Derbyshire v Gloucestershire

Derbyshire	Gloucestershire
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Kent v Yorkshire

Kent	Yorkshire
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Essex v Northants

Essex	Northants
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Sussex v Glamorgan

Sussex	Glamorgan
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Derbyshire v Gloucestershire

Derbyshire	Gloucestershire
1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith	1. Smith, 2. Edwards, 3. G. Smith, 4. G. Smith, 5. G. Smith, 6. G. Smith, 7. G. Smith, 8. G. Smith, 9. G. Smith, 10. G. Smith

Final league table

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Cycling

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

For the record

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
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5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Cricket

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Cricket

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
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6. Essex	4	6	0	400
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Cricket

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6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Feat of the admirable Crichton-Miller

By Sydney Friskin
After a week of unpredictable results, David Crichton-Miller, of Leicestershire, became the new British record holder for the longest time at junior level on Saturday at Wimbledon. The event, sponsored by Prudential, was the third in the sequence of 1980 national tournaments on various surfaces.

By adding the hard court title to the one already obtained on grass, Crichton-Miller achieved something admirable. His touch and control were in evidence as he beat the best player in his 6-4, 6-4 victory over Stewart Taylor, of Essex, in the final. It was not an exciting final, but it was a well-fought one.

Athletics Vaulters lift dull afternoon to impressive heights

By Paul Harrison
It must say something about Britain today that the two young men who did not to entertain the Amateur Athletic Association championships at Crystal Palace on Saturday are unemployed. Brian Hooper and Keith Barker, both 18, were the only two British record seven times and the Commonwealth record six times. Hooper finally triumphed with 5.39 metres (18ft 11in) from Strack (5.37 metres, 17ft 11in), a 22-year-old American, who was 5.40 metres before the competition. He entered at 5.10 and, like Hooper, hit the hottest of strokes before falling. Barker, who has cleared 1.77 in his back garden, so nearly cleared 5.60. The first Briton to clear 1.77, Hooper now knows he has the domestic competition from the younger man.

By adding the hard court title to the one already obtained on grass, Crichton-Miller achieved something admirable. His touch and control were in evidence as he beat the best player in his 6-4, 6-4 victory over Stewart Taylor, of Essex, in the final. It was not an exciting final, but it was a well-fought one.

Cycling Nakano wins his fourth sprint title

Beacon, Sept 7.—Wilfred Perffen (West Germany) won his professional motor-paced title at the world cycling championships here tonight. Perffen, the champion in 1978 and 1979, won a silver medal winner, led almost throughout the eight-rider battle held in heat-wave conditions.

Rugby Union

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

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3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700
4. Kent	6	4	0	600
5. Yorkshire	5	5	0	500
6. Essex	4	6	0	400
7. Northants	3	7	0	300
8. Sussex	2	8	0	200
9. Derbyshire	1	9	0	100
10. Gloucestershire	0	10	0	0

Rugby League

Team	W	L	D	Wicket
1. Middlesex	10	0	0	1000
2. Surrey	8	2	0	800
3. Hampshire	7	3	0	700

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

Public and Educational Appointments

LA CREME DE LA CREME

CITY £6,000
This responsible Sec/Pa position is a new appointment. You will assist the Financial Controller and Company Secretary of this insurance company. Handle highly confidential affairs for the company which will enable you to use your exceptional talents and good secretarial abilities. For more details contact Margaret Rahman on 629 8883.

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Involve yourself with anything and everything when you join this Chelsea based company. For entrepreneurial boss you will have a variety of interesting assignments. Liaise with him in Sierra Leone by letter, telephone and correspondence. Access of London and north shore and your passport to the challenge and bring you see CV to Margaret Rahman immediately on 629 8883.

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Assisting the Director of Middle Eastern affairs you are responsible for department administration and coordination in this U.S. International Bank. Handle senior level clients and a full secretarial role. For more information call Susan White on 629 8883.

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Bond House 19-20 Woodstock Street London W1R 1HF

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JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU 01-937 6325

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Firm specializing in exporting to Middle East require Administrative Assistant for Iran Section/PA to Financial Director. Experience in banking and exports procedures, knowledge of Iranian business procedures, fluent Persian essential. Knowledge of typing in Persian useful. At least three years experience. Salary £5,000 + negotiable with car allowance, bonus annually, four weeks' paid holiday.

Write with CV to Financial Director, Felbrook Ltd, 2 Browning Street, London SE17

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We seek one other to assist our team and maintain high standards. They must be self-motivated and ambitious people. Interviewing is a career which offers high earnings potential. Interviewing is a career which offers high earnings potential. Interviewing is a career which offers high earnings potential.

SECRETARIAL £5,500
A career opportunity in a leading UK computer company. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services.

90% ADMINISTRATION £5,500
A career opportunity in a leading UK computer company. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services.

PRIDE APPOINTMENTS £5,500
A career opportunity in a leading UK computer company. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED £5,500
A career opportunity in a leading UK computer company. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services.

DR. PERSONNEL £5,500
A career opportunity in a leading UK computer company. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial services.

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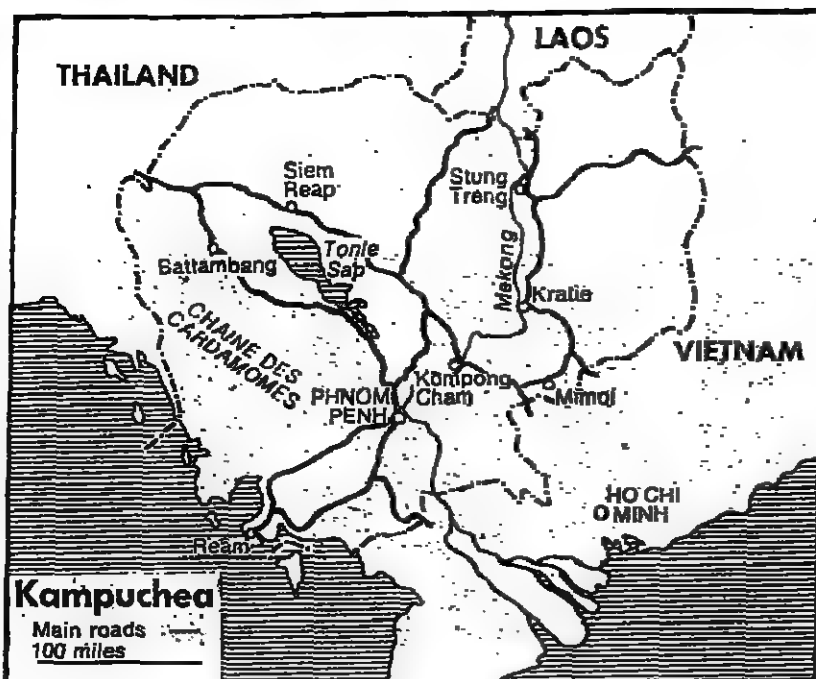
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AGUAR

David Watts assesses the struggle between Vietnam and Khmer Rouge factions

The war the Kampucheans cannot win



Kampuchea
Main roads
100 miles

One European source, however, described a markedly different state of affairs outside the capital. The source claimed that the Vietnamese army was "having a hard time" against the Khmer Rouge; that there was a force of resistance fighters of about 1,500 in the eastern and of Kompong Cham province which the Vietnamese were unable to engage for any length of time because they melt back into the dense wooded surroundings as soon as contact is made and that a whole area to the east of the Tonle Sap great lake is out of bounds to the Vietnamese because of infestation by the Khmer Rouge. The same applies to the area between Mimot and the provincial capital of Kratie which has to be approached through Vietnam because of the danger.

It is hard to evaluate the strength of such reports but travelling outside Phnom Penh along the strategic route five which leads to Battambang and the north-west operational area it is the troops' apparent lack of preparedness for the unexpected which is most striking.

There are troops, usually Vietnamese, posted at all bridges and occasionally along the roadside but there has been no attempt to have the army dig in in any sense of the term. For the most part, the troops live in tiny huts of dried reeds with often a small patch of food growing nearby.

Even at main base camps the soldiers are not always in permanent buildings and in most cases they would be vulnerable to the most half-hearted attack. It is evident that the high command is determined that the first Vietnamese army deployed on foreign soil in modern times is not to be outdone by the experience.

How the army in the north is kept resupplied is something of a mystery. With the Vietnamese force near the Thai border reported to be 60,000

strolling through the streets of the capital do not even carry side arms. A nominal time of curfew is imposed more in the interest of appearance than of security and there appears to be little effort to enforce it.

The condition of the main roads is atrocious. They are pitted with potholes forcing traffic to slow to a crawl more than walking pace for much of the time. Most Vietnamese troops on the move are seen packed into the backs of ageing Soviet-built military trucks or civilian Vietnamese trucks, usually the American Dodge and Ford. Breakdowns are frequent and the journey from Phnom Penh to Battambang can often take two days. If it is not a truck bumping through the lower landscape left successively by the American B52 bombers, Khmer Rouge or the destruction of the Vietnamese soldier is to be seen with the people on the back of an ox cart, on a bicycle or often just walking along the roads. Occasionally soldiers can be seen in the fields helping with the rice-planting, weapons, be they American, Soviet or captured Chinese propped up against the low mud banks surrounding the rice paddies.

The response of the Kampucheans to the Vietnamese military presence is usually a look of resignation or an embarrassed laugh at the question. From the bourgeoisie, the somewhat incongruous and uneasy allies of the Khmer Rouge government, the response is often a Vietnamese leave and the Khmer Rouge come back we're all dead.

That view is not shared by much of the peasantry, many of whom have been in Khmer Rouge-ruled areas since the early 1970s, but it is one seriously cultivated in Kampuchea today, and there is a good deal of truth in it.

David Watts, South-east Asia correspondent for The Times, has just completed a visit to Kampuchea. This is the first of five articles on what he found there. (Tomorrow in Overseas News: Food supplies).

Mr Begin's big question: when to call the next election

Whether his other failures, Israel's Prime Minister has so far achieved a notable success as a political survivor. Mr Begin's Government has held on despite the resignation of two of its most able and admired ministers, Mr Moshe Dayan and Mr Ezer Weizman. The dice state of the economy, brought about by the resignation of Mr Ezer Weizman, finance minister, has not been a disaster. It has been a disaster, however, for his successor.

Defection has left the Likud coalition with the slenderest of parliamentary majorities. Its standing with the electorate has declined even more, and public opinion polls indicate that a general election to take place again, the Government would suffer a resounding defeat.

With nothing to induce Mr Begin to take his chances and go to the country, he will inevitably stay in office until the autumn of 1981 when the term of his administration expires. He may hope that by then things may look better for the Government and the country. In any event, few national leaders in any democracy would deliberately divest themselves of office when there could still be 12 months of power. For 29 years, Mr Begin was in opposition. He has now decided to spend his return to that negative role in his nation's affairs.

Similar considerations must also weigh with his coalition partners. The National Religious Party or Mr Dayan's Democratic Party could destroy the coalition's parliamentary majority were they to withdraw their support. But the Democratic Party has fallen so far from public grace that it is likely to be decimated in the election and may not even vote. A wealthy reason for maintaining the status quo.

The religious parties are unlikely to lose much for the election, but they have remained remarkably constant for many years. While they are no doubt aware of the drawbacks of participating in a "discredited" Government, they have been supplied with a steady stream of public funds by the Labour government. They are not likely to be tempted by the prospect of a new government.

The signing of the convention, which will run to over 300 articles, is not of course the end. It will have to be ratified by 50 signatures before coming into force, and it will be many years before the new institutions will be in full working order. But to have reached even the present level of agreement was thought by many observers to be impossible.

There is to be another conference session in New York next spring, at which, it is hoped and expected, all the remaining areas of disagreement will be resolved. Decisions will also have to be made on the possible admission to the

cooperation of the European Community, on the grounds that on some subjects, fisheries in particular, the EEC has an element of sovereignty, and the convention to make decisions on the participation of various liberation movements.

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At last, law at sea is near

This time, it really looks as if final agreement is going to be reached on the content of an international Law of the Sea Convention. It is not yet seven years, and there is still a possibility that some of the few outstanding issues will prove more difficult to resolve than anticipated, or that some apparently settled questions will be reopened. But the general expectation, following a successful negotiating session by the 150 participating states in Geneva recently, is that a convention could be formally signed in Caracas (where the first session was held, in 1974) late next year.

The breakthrough came with agreement on the last main dispute over the deep-sea mining regime which is to be set up under the convention. It has long been agreed that an international seabed authority would be responsible for the licensing and control of the mining of the deposits of manganese nodules on the seabed, but the decision-making procedure of the authority's governing council had raised

seemingly intractable difficulties. A complicated formula has now been agreed, the most important aspect of which is that a consensus would be required for any decision to be of fundamental importance to the mining regime. In effect this gives every country on the council a veto.

This was not an academic point but one on which the very future of deep sea mining depended. The wealth of nickel, copper, cobalt and manganese contained in the nodules is in theory enough to meet world demand for hundreds of years. The profits from commercial exploitation will be enormous once production gets under way; but equally the technological problems of raising the nodules from the bottom of the ocean are immense. The four main international consortia interested in commercial deep sea mining have already spent nearly £100m in research and development. Setting up a full scale mining project for commercial use would, it has been estimated,

cost more than \$500m per site. Under the agreed "parallel" system, for every site mined for the profit of the mining company, an equivalent site is to be reserved for the benefit of the poorer countries of the world, by the international seabed authority's operating arm, the Enterprise, under the principle that what is on the seabed belongs to all mankind.

Another source of friction has been the passing of legislation in the United States which would allow the mining companies to apply for mining rights in the United States Government. This unilateral step has been condemned by the group of 77—the developing nations—as curtailing the negotiations. The United States claims that the law is consistent with what will eventually be the international seabed regime, and that in any event commercial mining would not be allowed to start until 1983, by which time the Law of the Sea Convention should be in force.

Apart from mining, most of the main issues have been agreed for some time, and indeed, many countries are conducting their affairs as if the convention were already in existence. The 200-mile exclusive economic zone, within which the coastal state would have the right to fish and to explore for oil, gas and other resources, is already an international reality.

There is still a difference of opinion, however, about territorial delimitation between states with opposite or adjacent coasts, with the majority, including Britain, favouring the boundary being established by drawing a median, that is, exact half-way line between the countries, and some states, led by Ireland, preferring a rather more tenuous reference to "equitable principles".

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Eric Hoffer

The only pay policy the unions will accept

At its meeting last week, the TUC endorsed a proposal similar to one I made recently at the TUC/Labour Party Liaison Committee that talks should be held on pay, prices, and anti-inflation measures and that an attempt be made to work out an agreement between the unions and the Labour Party; such an agreement to be concerned with all income and not a disguise for wage restraint.

While it may seem as if there is a contradiction between the resolution asked by the TUC calling for such talks and a second resolution, also carried, committing the TUC to free collective bargaining and opposition to all forms of wage restraint, in reality, there is no such contradiction.

Over the years the trade unions have rightly got tired of unworkable and frustrating wage restraint policies, because that, in effect, is what all previous prices and incomes poli-

cies became, even when under Harold Wilson they began as the "planned growth of incomes". At the time the phrase secured the support of Frank Cousins, then general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union which later drove him out of the Wilson Labour government when it became clear that planned growth meant wage restraint backed by legislation.

It is therefore perfectly understandable that trade unionists, specially the rank and file, who are unlikely to end up as members of the House of Lords or sit on various governmental boards, should be highly suspicious of what Jim Callaghan was proposing and saying in his speech to the TUC. They have heard it all before.

The TUC/Labour Party Liaison Committee document, *Trade and Industry—A Policy for Expansion*, which was approved by both the TUC General Council and the National Executive

of the Labour Party in July. He said he would not refer to the names listed at the head of the documents, so as not to cause embarrassment to those named. As one of these, I certainly feel no embarrassment, nor I am sure, do any of my colleagues whose names also appear. Why? Because we all played a constructive role in drawing up the document.

In any case such documents are not agreed policy until endorsed by the TUC and the Labour Party conference, and also because they can only contain agreed minimum objectives. Restrictive documents of the unions, in the TUC are not affiliated to the Labour Party and all members of the TUC General Council are not necessarily members of the party. The Labour Party, therefore, cannot fight an election purely on policies determined by a committee which is not actually a policy-making body.

The party's election manifesto would, undoubtedly con-

tain any agreement made between the party and the TUC, but could not be confined to only that.

The document *Trade and Industry*, referred to by Jim Callaghan, contains, in fact, similar policies to those in *Police, Jobs and Freedom*, the NEC statement agreed at the special conference in June. The two documents therefore complement each other and by no means go in opposite directions.

The TUC Labour Party statement concludes by saying that it believes the policies set out provide a basis for building a new partnership between government and the trade union movement. It certainly does that, but there is clear need to go further. This is argued in the statement when it argues that it is necessary to strengthen the Manpower Services Commission and regional policy, as part of the overall strategy for a return to full employment.

One thing is obvious, and I

fully agree with Jim Callaghan on this. If Labour is to win the next general election, there must be unity between the unions and the party.

It is important to recognize that we are witnessing the vital collapse of the free enterprise system in the most recent very political broadcast it was rightly stressed that unemployment had risen in the whole of the western world as well as in Japan, and that Britain's problems were part of the world-wide. That broadcast underlined what some of us had been saying for some time: that traditional capitalist methods had failed, especially in Britain.

What Britain needs is Thatcherism in reverse. The Labour Party in future must show the same determination in implementing its policies, as Mrs Thatcher has in implementing hers.

This brings me back to my original point. Labour must have a policy which commands the support of the trade unions.

The author is MP for Liverpool, Walton.

DIARY OF AN IMPROVING EXPERIENCE

One often-noted difference between the British and the Americans is that while well-to-do Britons banish their misadventures from the next for most of the school year, their American counterparts do so instead during the long summer holidays.

The motive, or at least the professed motive, is the same in both cases: to build character and self-reliance. It is based on the superstition—not, so far as I know, supported by any empirical data—that to let young people loose among their peers will make them better able to survive the time when they are turned out into the jungle of the adult world.

Here in America they call it "going to camp", an expression which points up the spartan conditions to which the youths are subjected and the uncomfortable things they are made to do, although they seldom actually sleep under canvas. This year our son Ben, who is ten-and-a-half, went to camp for the first time and found it well, interesting.

It was, to be sure, a tentative one that he dipped into the chilly waters of this great American institution. While many boys (and quite a few girls) are sent away for almost the entire ten weeks of the holiday, he went for only a week.

The camp Ben chose from the scores advertised in the Sunday papers throughout the spring, was not really typical. While most offer a variety of outdoor activities for the enjoyment and torment of their victims, this one was more single-minded—a "soccer camp", providing an intensive course in a game which has in the last few years grown in popularity here. (It is known as soccer to distinguish it from the more traditional and still more popular American football, like rugby but played with a weight of protective clothing.) We drove him on the opening Sunday to the site, a military neo-Georgian house on the southern shore of Long Island, some 50 miles from the city. The soccer field was a

broad, flat lawn stretching to the ocean, cooled by soft sea breezes. The athletic setting was spoiled by a modern field gun bearing down on one of the goals, but it seemed improbable that it had anything to do with Ben's camp.

His room, not in the main building, bore all the signs of a hard and cheerful life. There were desks and chairs on the walls, on the two beds (he was sharing with a friend) and on the doors of the built-in wardrobe, which closed only after a struggle.

The fly-screen fitted precisely, leaving plenty of room for persistent mosquitoes. In the hall, I noticed a number of public telephones, which I thought significant.

Parents were invited to stay for the opening ceremony in the hot and crowded gymnasium. The camp was run by the Cosmos, New York's leading professional soccer team, a pair of their star players, mostly imported from Europe and Latin America, were to put in an appearance.

They were introduced and enthusiastically cheered by the assembled campers, a group of rubbing shoulders with sportsmen who appear on television is a powerful lure for young Americans.

In case that was not enough, the camp offered more tangible attractions. The free gift is an essential feature of many American institutions, from banks to sports events. You can get a free blunder for depositing money in a savings bank, or free mugs for attending a baseball game.

The camp was offering a free ball and a free uniform for any who attended. At the opening ceremony the director, who cheered to the echo when he announced two extra giveaways—a plastic cup, featuring the Cosmos logo and a poster advertising the Cosmos game which the campers were to be taken to see. Hurrah!

The director was Dr. Julio Mazzei, who made his name as an associate of the great Brazilian player Pele. He gave a speech which was well received

but which I found a bit scary, full of the kind of appeal, to better strength and moral standards which I associate with pre-war Germany.

All gets sporty, he told the assembly, have attributes in common. They are good-natured, modest and helpful to others. (I do not think he had been including in that generalization baseball players, who spend much of the time taping and writing outrageous letters to their mothers, or occasionally coping in blow-by-blow accounts.)

"I do not mind," he said, leaving here without any improvement in your soccer skills. I want you to leave here a better person." The applause for that came from the parents rather than the boys and girls.

He then announced that, at the soccer player's signal, two claps, at which the players had to respond with three staccato claps. The gym magnified the sound so that it resembled a machine gun.

"Hearty" is the single word I would choose to describe the

proceedings, from which the parent was eventually dismissed, leaving the work of creating better people to the camp organizers who could resist the opportunity to try to sell them things. Tickets for the game were offered to those who wanted to be there with their children, and shoulder bags with the Cosmos logo said that day campers could carry their gear back and forth.

A seemingly endless stream of trainers and counsellors trotted up to the platform to be introduced. There came a few notable campers, in particular a group from Finland—thin blonde youngsters among whom it was hard to tell the boys from the girls.

There was a spot of morale-raising business, akin to cheering, as Dr. Mazzei explained that the soccer player's signal: two claps, at which the players had to respond with three staccato claps. The gym magnified the sound so that it resembled a machine gun.

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POLAND'S NEW LEADER

There is an obvious logic in the appointment of Mr Stanislaw Kania as Poland's new party leader. He is a man of the apparatus, and it is the apparatus as well as Moscow that will now determine whether Poland can enter a new phase of genuine reforms or whether it will slide back into the familiar cycle of disillusion and crisis.

To a great extent it was the apparatus that stifled Mr Gierk's early attempts at reform and brought his regime to such a messy end. His fate has lessons for the future. He came to office as a powerful provincial baron from the south where he had built his base among some of Poland's most privileged workers, the miners. He was a relative stranger to Warsaw and never managed to establish the same authority as his predecessor. He saw himself as the great modernizer, taking a bold leap into industrialization with borrowed money that would be repaid by a surge in Poland's industrial exports. He thought he could galvanize the country into new life through his own personal efforts, and in his early period he travelled the land listening to grievances, talking, cajoling and intervening. But he failed to see the need to institutionalize the dialogue he was conducting. He talked about reforms, about separating government from party, about devolving initiative to the factories and introducing market mechanisms, but the talk trailed away as the apparatus closed in to protect its monopoly of power and patronage.

System was too inflexible

He tried bribing it with inflated privileges, but this only made matters worse by separating it even further from reality and building up popular resentment. When the economic climate worsened, the system was too inflexible to adjust. Far too many brakes were jammed on without explanation or rationality which the economy lurching into crisis.

Mr Gierk suffered from two familiar misconceptions: that the system could be made to work with the right man (himself) at the top and that consumerism would take the steam out of demands for freedom. His concessions to society were not positive attempts at reform but somewhat reluctant adjustments to reality. He did a lot of enlightened things. He gave greater recognition to the Church, allowed the Pope to visit Poland, cultivated West Germany and was relatively restrained in his harassment of dissidents. He permitted a great deal of unofficial literature and free speech to flourish.

But none of this was part of any coherent plan of reform. In the end unofficial activity forced its way through so many cracks in the system that the power structure felt profoundly threatened. Had he attempted to build some of these freedoms into the system he might have felt better able to control them.

At the very end, he moved in this direction by formally admitting independent trade unions, at least on paper, but by then it was too late. He had lost the trust of his own people, of Moscow, and of his own apparatus. Nevertheless, he will not be wholly despised by history. He has many achievements to his credit, huge if badly organized industrial investment, much higher living standards, and above all a country which has learned to use with remarkable responsibility the unofficial freedoms granted.

Huge authority of the Church

Mr Kania knows the apparatus from inside, and since his base is in the Warsaw region he understands the party machine better than Mr Gierk did from the rather special conditions of Silesia. He knows that the apparatus as a whole is deeply untrusting and will cling to its position with all the determination of the insecure. It has virtually no support among the people and is confronted by the huge and morally superior authority of the Church, and by the intractable resistance of a peasantry, which owns about three-quarters of the farming land. By all reports the middle and lower ranks of the party were deeply distressed by the Pope's visit which showed up in public the hollow nature of their power and gave uncomfortable encouragement to every party dissident. They were also very distressed by the concessions to the independent unions. With ideology dead, the apparatus has nothing to live for but its own political and material privileges and its powers of patronage. Anything which threatens these will be resisted. This was the lesson which Mr Brezhnev learned from the fall of Khrushchev. It is the lesson which has kept him in power and which put Mr Kania into power.

Poland's situation is better understood in these institutional terms than by concentrating exclusively on the personality and career of Mr Kania. Being a man of the apparatus he is neither hawk nor dove, Stalinist or reformer. He has made his career by shrewdly calculating tactics, judging his opportunities as they arrive and taking advantage of them. None of the decisions on positions of his career tell us much about him if taken out of context, except that he must have judged rightly in more cases than not to get where he is now.

He has been selected because this performance has earned him trust in the apparatus and above all in Moscow. As the party secretary responsible for the police and the army, he will have been in constant contact with Moscow and the KGB. With responsibility also for church affairs, he was in touch with the other vital centre of power in Poland. With his men throughout the Warsaw region, he has a good base. It is now easy to see why Mr Olszowski, the most widely tipped candidate, was

rejected. He lacked these contacts and he had, as they say, been playing two games at once—cultivating Mr Brezhnev but also maintaining with reformists. Mr Kania has not exposed himself in this way. He is the type of rock on which the system is built—loyal, careful and apparently uncommitted to anything on anyone but the party.

What can we expect of him? Being a tactician, he must also be a realist. He now finds himself at the centre of a complex collision of forces. Moscow will give him two instructions: to avoid provoking trouble, but also to struggle against reforms which might threaten the basic nature of the system. His own apparatus will ask much the same, with the emphasis on restraining the power and authority of the party. The question is whether the two instructions are compatible. To struggle the reforms would provoke further trouble. To allow them to develop would threaten the system.

Reformers, however, will argue that the dilemma is wrongly put. They will say that he cannot restore the authority of the party, and still less get out of the economic mess. Entry into a new reformist phase is now in the air. The system is being destroyed, the system of reforms could revive it. In particular, if any reforms would start by raising prices and lowering standards, the machine is going to need the co-operation of the workers to achieve them and this co-operation can, on the face of it, be won only through independent unions. But would the new union leaders be able to carry their followers through a period of austerity? The union developed in protest against worsening conditions. They would need to be extremely well persuaded to support reforms which initially made conditions worse.

Clear warning from Moscow

The "natural" thing for Mr Kania to do is to play for time by reassuring all sides. This is what he seems to be doing. His first statement sought to reassure the workers that their gains were safe and that he wanted to strengthen the bonds between society and the authorities. At the same time he told the party that the "best" of the party would remain untouched. Mr Brezhnev was less ambiguous. His message to the new leader contained a clear warning of the need to strengthen the party and consolidate the position of socialism. In Moscow's version of consolidated socialism there is no room for free trade unions. The odds are therefore that Mr Kania will embark on a carefully calculated zigzag course, trying to reassure the workers while telling the apparatus that if they are patient they will find their interests fully protected. But the balancing act can last only so long. At some point, somebody is going to start feeling that he is on the losing side. Then, unless Mr Kania is quite extraordinarily clever, there will be another crisis.

David Wood

Veterans choose their time to go

We probably ought to be preparing ourselves not only for Mr Callaghan to resign the Labour leadership this autumn when, by a last exercise of the back-room managerial skills that he never allows to rust unused, he has succeeded in killing off left-wing attempts to bring in diverse constitutional reforms. Speculation also grows like the green bay tree among Conservatives that Lord Thorneycroft may choose the Brighton Conference in October to hint or even announce that the time has come for him to give up the chairmanship of the Conservative Party organization. He would go out in rank and file glory. Lord Thorneycroft, now 71, has already served for five and a half years, and with the exception of Lord Woolton has now done a stint nearly three times longer than the post-war average for party chairmen. Two years is the approved term, and the much longer regiments of Lord Woolton (nine years) and Lord Thorneycroft are explained by their particularly close association with the party leaders of their time, as well as the electoral successes and high party morale that they created.

Of one thing we may be sure: Lord Thorneycroft will have a part in the decision when it is made. Mrs Thatcher knows her debt to him, and she knows that he will be extraordinarily hard to replace. He has not made his mark as a leading party figure, but as Lord Hamilton, a leading political strategist like Lord Boyd of Aghadowilly, an inspirational go-whisk like Lord Macleod, or a management efficiency expert like Lord Poole. His contribution has been three: political experience, staying back to 1938 when he entered the House of Commons, and judgment and readiness to

offer it, and an affinity with Mrs Thatcher's general thinking and style. Mrs Thatcher likes to have a father figure at hand whom she can trust. Lord Thorneycroft fills that role perfectly, and also (with the exception of the responsible department) runs an unusually successful planning Central Office. On top of that, he continues to be one of the best Conservative speakers for all party occasions.

In a sense, Lord Thorneycroft was an unexpected choice for the party chairmanship when Mrs Thatcher became Leader in February 1975. He had been out of active politics since Lord Mountbatten's 1956 General Election, and had moved into industry. He was stranded in his mid-sixties and not always in the best of health. Given a life peerage in 1967, he did not wear out his welcome in the House of Lords. The loss to politics was industry's gain.

But for Mrs Thatcher Lord Thorneycroft was the admired fore-runner. At her new Conservatism, in January 1959, with his career moving to its unpredictable crest as Chairman of the Executive, Lord Thorneycroft resigned in company with his treasury colleagues Nigel Birch and Enoch Powell. I remember the cynical account: a senior cabinet colleague gave at the time: "Peter asked for public expenditure cuts of £500 million. We gave him two-thirds. That was a bit more astonished when he resigned, because we knew he couldn't afford it. He has no money, you know." He had as Mrs Thatcher would say, something more precious than money; and riches are anyhow relative.

If Lord Thorneycroft and Mrs Thatcher agree that the time has come to choose a new party chairman to carry the Conservatives through the next general election in autumn 1983, or early summer, 1984, no obvious successor presents himself for herself. Something depends on the job specification, which means taking a view of the party's immediate or foreseeable needs.

With her cumulative experience as Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher could now put less emphasis on party political experience than Lord Thorneycroft has always provided, and probably not have to rely so much on an extremely adroit public speaker. She may need another bell-

ringer to fill the shoes of the former of a money-raiser who knows how to get industry and City. But if she is wise she will now revert to the old practice of giving a senior Cabinet Minister a second hat to wear. The Conservative Party chairmanship, after Lord Thorneycroft's departure, will be almost a full-time job in its own right.

What of Mr Callaghan and the Labour Party leadership? Nothing he said to the TUC in Brighton last week convinced the slightest bit that he intends to take up his yoke of care and make a run for the pastoral peace of his 127 Sussex acres. Who reasonably expected that he would? If he carries the day at the Labour Party conference with the union block votes, as I believe he has already virtually assured, then the constitutional arguments will be dead, and he can go before the Parliamentary Labour Party and announce that he will stand again in the annual sessional elections in November. Then the way to the succession will be open to Mr Denis Healey, Mr John Silkin, Mr Peter Shore, and perhaps Mr Wedgwood Benn will stand merely to put down markers for the next leadership election, or the deputy leadership.

Optimum rate for sterling

From Sir Fred Catherwood, MEP for Cambridgeshire (Conservative)

Sir, Mr P. M. Leigh asks (September 4) why, if a low rate for sterling is to be set, it is not now done. The simple answer is that the best rate for sterling is one which balances the interests of our £60bn of exports of goods and services with our £60bn of imports. Too low a rate is inflationary, too high a rate puts people out of work. At present the rate is generally reckoned to be 25 per cent too high, and the only cure to our self-generated inflation, but at a heavy and growing cost to employment.

The answer to Mr Leigh's second question—why the steady increase in the value of the Deutschmark has not made Germany uncompetitive—is that their self-generated inflation has been much lower. And one reason for that is that Germany has a much more stable structure, which we helped to set up after the war, lending itself easily to concerted action between government and industry. Our three attempts at concerted action have been politically difficult to set up, have made themselves mightily unpopular by squeezing traditional differentials and have been too easy to repudiate when the going got tough.

When the British Labour government kept Britain out of the European Monetary System and exposed it to the full force of speculative pressure, it made a major and most damaging mistake. Our partners should be made to see that a competitive rate would do wonders for employment, but would raise the cost of imports at the beginning of a new wage round.

So we have a clear choice between income and employment, and between a "going rate" set by a multinational motor manufacturer, which every British converter will try to follow as best he can, or a going rate set with some regard to employment and prosperity in Britain.

Yours truly,
FRED CATHERWOOD,
Sutton Hall,
Baldham,
Cambridgeshire.
September 4.

From Professor C. E. V. Lester

Sir, In connection with the exchange rate of the pound, which is at a record level, it is interesting to read that Sir Joseph Kain said in his lecture in 1976, "Monetarism is not enough" regarding the years after 1919.

"After five years of deliberate deflation we returned to gold at the unrealistically high value of our pre-war parity. The result was heavy inflation in the economy, as measured by the short-elapsed intervention of the monetary authorities and the Treasury."

In the light of this, cannot Sir Kain use his influence to bring the interest rate down, thereby the exchange rate down, both of which would be beneficial to industry and employment? Or is monetarism now considered to be enough?

Yours sincerely,
C. E. V. LESTER,
School of Economic Studies,
The University,
Leeds.
September 1.

Tourists in the Abbey

From the Chairman of the British Tourist Authority

Sir, Lord Hertford in his letter (September 2) could not have been better placed to point out the position of London's tourism, but the Archbishop of Westminster (September 1) emphasises one aspect with which I have much sympathy, namely how to enable large numbers of visitors to enjoy the glories of Westminster Abbey without detracting from its essential role as "a place for prayer or quiet contemplation".

Last year I put a proposal to the Abbey authorities which I had hoped would provide, at least a partial solution to this problem. It was ruled out then for lack of available room, but if it were combined with the Archbishop's suggestion for lectures outside church buildings it might now have a better hope of adoption.

My proposal is that in the Abbey precincts there should be a small cinema where films of great Abbey ceremonies—the Coronation, royal weddings, the Eucharist, and so on—could be shown. Add to this audio-visual presentations on the Abbey, and the result would, I have no doubt, be immensely attractive to the casual visitor, foreign, domestic, and the revenue from sale of tickets would help towards the ever-growing cost of maintaining this splendid building.

With this pleasurable and instructive experience being given, how much better would visitors be able to enjoy and understand the grandeur and purpose of the Abbey? If the will were there, I find it hard to accept that a place in the precincts could not be found.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY MARKING,
British Tourist Authority,
10, St. James's Street, SW1.
September 3.

Counting the cost

From Mr Benjamin Levy

Sir, On Wednesday evening my 13-year-old daughter and I watched a television party political broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party. In it a statement was made that prices in High Street shops were being held steady or were in some cases going down.

My daughter observed to me that the statement was plainly incorrect: and I was bound to concede that she was right. This leads to the conclusion that the party which focuses the Government of this country is either (a) mendacious, or (b) so stupid as not to know what happens in the pricing of goods in ordinary shops.

My daughter favours conclusion (a). What am I to advise her?

Yours etc.,
BENJAMIN LEVY,
5-10 Square,
Milton Road, WC2.
September 4.

Policing football matches

From the Chairman of Sheffield Wednesday FC

Sir, I write to you because of my extreme concern with the way in which the Home Office, or is it the police forces, are tackling the very difficult, thorny problem of soccer hooligans. My own club, so far this year, has had two away matches—one at Bolton and the other at Nottingham against Notts County.

We are fortunate at Sheffield Wednesday in that we do have considerable support that follows us wherever we are playing, and it is of some concern to all of us involved in the responsible side of football to see the present policy of herding together the visiting supporters into a very small confine of the stadium where we are playing away, to ensure there is no mixing of Home versus Away supporters.

The reasoning of this policy is easy to understand, but the excessive crushing now being practised on the visiting supporters is not only inhumane but also a danger to the health of the visiting supporters in the home spectators have dispersed, is leading to nothing more than trouble and more trouble.

At Hillsborough we have had a number of letters from our supporters; and of course whilst we have some hooligans they are of a very limited number—by far and away the majority of our supporters are decent, law-abiding people, and these people complain of being locked in at Bolton until they missed their train home and then did not get home until half-past midnight instead of 2 hours earlier.

In Nottingham the police limited their gate to 10,000 and forbade them from selling tickets to supporters on the day of the match, to

ensure that Sheffield Wednesday supporters couldn't come down from Sheffield into Nottingham and buy tickets that would have enabled them, possibly, to mix with home spectators.

All very well in theory but on the day vast areas of this stadium were empty, acres of terracing stood empty. Sheffield Wednesday support of something over 6,000 was crowded into one segment of the ground and locked in for some time after the final whistle, making hooligans out of decent people.

This is a matter of some social concern and of national concern. It is my view that this particular policy of the police that seems to be becoming prevalent throughout the country, is mistaken and dangerous.

Of some import too is the factor of loss of public support and assistance without which our police cannot do their job. What must be done is that the miscreants must be identified, localized, arrested and dealt with with the full measure of the law so that society in this country can once again walk without fear of molestation whether it be in a football ground or in the streets of their cities at night.

Good government in this country or any other, requires bread and circuses. Football is an essential part of our social fabric and the bureaucratic mind now "creeping" into police work see the solution as empty stadiums policed by hundreds of police.

Yours faithfully,
R. E. MCGEE, Chairman,
Hillsborough,
Sheffield.
September 4.

Counterforce strategy

From Professor J. Rotblat

Sir, It is becoming customary to speak of deterrence when in fact we are talking about a "limited" nuclear war. Effective and Limited Power" (September 4) is a case in point. You justify Carter's Presidential Directive 59 on the grounds that the counterforce strategy will provide a credible deterrent. I fail to see what and how it will deter.

Consider your own scenario of the Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) becoming numerous enough and accurate enough to knock out all of the United States land-based missiles. How would the US counterforce strategy prevent such a Soviet attack? Should such an attack be launched, the surviving US force will not find any targets for retaliation; the missile silos will be empty, the bombers will have been taken out, and submarines are still immune from attack.

Actually, the American response to the threat of a Soviet initiative as described by you, is to make their ICBMs invulnerable by developing the MX mobile system in which each ICBM could be in any one of 23 possible locations. Obviously, the Soviet response to a US counterforce strategy will be to make the MX mobile system vulnerable until the strike force are increased twenty fold; a huge further spilling of the arms race. In the meantime we shall face the

risk of "launch on warning". The fear of having the ICBMs destroyed may induce either side to launch its missiles, as soon as a signal is received that the other side has launched its missiles. The danger of an accidental nuclear war would thus be greatly increased.

So what is the true reason for the US counterforce strategy? You gave the answer yourself: to enable the Americans to fight a "limited" nuclear war.

The notion that one side can decide to wage a limited nuclear war is obviously nonsense. One side can start a nuclear war, but it takes two sides to keep it limited. On what grounds do you assume that the Russians will play the game according to rules drawn up by the Americans? There are good reasons for believing that they would not. Indeed, it was specifically stated that the Soviet response in the use of nuclear weapons would be massive retaliation. This may be bluff, but what if it is not? The stakes are far too high to gamble on it.

The doctrine of a limited nuclear war is most insidious and dangerous; if it is pursued it is very likely to result in a nuclear holocaust before long. If civilization is to survive this century, it is important that we stop talking about limited nuclear war and instead take urgent and effective steps to limit nuclear arms.

Yours faithfully,
J. ROTBLAT,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
September 6.

An international Jerusalem

From Lord Caradon

Sir, Lord Banks and others from the House of Lords have proposed "the internationalization of Jerusalem as a whole" (September 2). This was the recommendation of the United Nations General Assembly more than 30 years ago, but since then both Israelis and Muslim Arabs have increasingly and emphatically rejected it.

The Israelis are devoted to their aim of making their capital in Jerusalem. The Muslim Arabs are equally determined that the holy sites of Islam in East Jerusalem shall be restored to Muslim Arab sovereignty. So the realization has gained ground that the solution should not be based on an imposed no-man's-land, still less on the

domination of one side over the other, but on equality and reconciliation.

The proposal now being increasingly advocated is that there must be an Israeli Jerusalem and an Arab Jerusalem with no barriers between them and freedom of movement between the two, and freedom of access to all the holy sites for everyone (this is very different to the alternative of "a joint municipality of Arabs and Jews" referred to in Lord Banks's letter).

No one wants to go back to the armed barricades before 1967 arising from the earlier war. Instead the noble conception takes hold, that the Holy City should not be a barrier but a gateway to peace.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH CARADON,
House of Lords.
September 2.

Churches picking up

From the Reverend R. A. Mason

Sir, During the recent discussion of "house" churches in your columns, Mr P. S. Forsaith (August 14) said: "Institutional religion in Britain is in rapid decline." This view is often stated, but any proof is generally lacking. There can be no doubt that during the 1950s and 1960s there was indeed a steep decline, but that is now arrested and "institutional religion" as Mr Forsaith calls it, is now looking up.

I do not base this assertion on any national figures or general ideas, but on my own experience as a beneficed clergyman of the Church of England. During the years of the early 1970s, when I worked in Hereford Diocese, all the churches in my area, not just my own, were showing signs of

growth—increased attendance, increased confirmation among adults and generally higher levels of church life. Admittedly these gains were from a very low figure after 20 years of decline, but gains they undoubtedly were.

Since moving to Willesden, a place with more than its fair share of urban problems, I have discovered the same thing, a steady, if slow, growth in church life over its whole area.

I can speak only for my own observations, and only for the church to which I belong, but on the evidence available to me the traditional churches are no longer declining, and are, under God, recovering.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. MASON,
Wilkesden Vicarage,
Neasden Lane, NW10.

Unkind cuts

From Mr David Le Vay

Sir, I was appointed as consultant surgeon to a London hospital in 1946 and worked continuously until my retirement in 1977. I receive a National Health Service pension, paid for by salary deductions during this period of admittedly enjoyable hard labour. I continue to work from time to time in locum engagements up and down the country, but it is laid down that my earnings plus pension must not exceed my salary at retirement.

Now, even if this is justifiable, it should only be the case with respect to earnings over the year as a whole. But not so. The authorities apply the rule quarter by quarter; and in my case this means that if I choose to work for more than six weeks or so in any one quarter, I lose my pension for the remainder of that period.

It happens that I prefer to work overseas because of disillusion with the decrepitude of the Health Service, but I like to see my family and did work here for two quarters during the last 12 months and in consequence have just received a demand for the refund of half my

pension for that period, even though total income for the 12 months did not exceed salary at retirement.

I regard this as unjust, inequitable and oppressive and it has reinforced my decision never to live or work in England again. Experienced surgical locum consultants are not easy to find; and, for what it is worth, my services will now be permanently lost to this country.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LE VAY,
Old Buckhurst South,
Worthington,
Sussex.
September 4.

Welsh television

From Mr Bernard Wates

Sir, I am tired of being told that if Dr Gwynfor Evans dies as a result of his hunger strike it will be the fault of the Government. It will not—it will be the fault of Dr Gwynfor Evans. He doesn't have to do it.

Yours sincerely,
BERNARD WATES,
High Above Park,
Selside,
Kendal,
Cumbria.
September 5.

Parable of bad Samaritans

From the Bishop of Mauritius and Archbishop of the Indian Ocean

Sir, I have long since come to believe that the cliché, "charity begins at home", has done more damage than any other in the English language. It has been used to justify every kind of meanness, misanthropy and hypocrisy through the ages. And it still provides us with the excuse we seek for passing by on the other side with the tourist and the Levite on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho.

Of course its intention is quite different. It is unlikely that we will care for others unknown and strange to them unless they have learnt to love the members of their own family. But, particularly where these words are used in the context of international relations, the temptation to apply them in an exact opposite sense seems to be irresistible.

So, as your correspondent Mervyn Westlake has made clear in his admirable article "The Third World: the unknown world of all" (August 14), exemplified recently in the Foreign Secretary's comment: "A lot of people in this country are having to do without a whole lot of things that they want and need... it really is right that everybody in the Third World should take a hit of a cut... don't think we've got anything to be ashamed of."

So it is also with the Government's reply to the first report from the Education, Science and Arts Committee on Overseas Students Fees: "The Government did not consider that indiscriminate subsidies for overseas students were an appropriate use of public resources" (italics mine). To expose the cuts on the ground of a lack of discrimination is to perpetuate the subsidies is naive when in fact the richest countries (the EEC and the oil-producing nations) receive preferential treatment.

It is only the students from the poorer countries who will suffer. Britain has for so long been obsessed with its own concerns, has for so long been taking its economic temperature and wondering what new cure it can experiment with, has for so long lost its sense of national purpose in the most dreary form of introspective belittling, that it is hardly surprising we are sick.

If it is true (as in one sense it certainly is) that "charity begins at home" can be no less even as charity begins at home, then that "home" is the world itself and its family of nations and that "charity" means "to give and not to count the cost." It would at least be worth trying.

Yours faithfully,
+ TREVOR HUDDLESTON, CR,
Bishop's House,
Phoenix,
Mauritius.

Picketing implications

From Councillor Martin Coleman

Sir, The provisions concerning picketing in the new Employment Act will make more likely some of the scenes that were condemned by the then Conservative Opposition during the so-called winter of discontent.

The new Act confines the right to picket to a person picketing at his own place of work. It is not unusual in the public sector for there to be 100 per cent support for a strike or other form of industrial action and thus for there to be no need for trade unionists to persuade fellow workers not to attend at their place of work. The main purpose of a picket in such a situation is to persuade management that the employees' claim is justified. In order to do this workers will picket the relevant administrative centre, which may be a town hall, area health authority building, or other public office. Many of us involved in public affairs are quite used to the sight of such demonstrations and find them useful as an indication of the strength of workers' feelings on particular issues.

The effect of the new Act is that this option will no longer be open to trade unionists. Thus, striking teachers will have no choice but to picket schools at which they work; striking gravediggers will have to picket the graveyard and striking hospital porters will picket the hospital at which they are employed.

Whilst it is unlikely that very much notice will be taken by public sector trade unionists of the new Act it is undesirable that workers should be open to the possibility of a civil action for peacefully picketing a meeting at which decisions concerning their jobs will be made. Although I have referred specifically to the public sector, the provisions also apply to the private sector, where workers may be prohibited from picketing a meeting of their board of directors or, indeed, of the executive committee of their trade union.

It is to be hoped that the threatened further legislation on employment matters will contain a provision extending the right to picket to include at least picketing at the place at which decisions concerning the formation of an employee's terms and conditions of employment are made.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN COLEMAN,
Vice-Chairman,
Finance and General Purposes Committee,
Brent Town Hall,
Forty Lane,
Wembley, Middlessex.

Choosing a party chairman

From Dr C. Goodson-Wickes

Sir, However well intentioned their proposals for the Chairmanship of the Conservative Party (Letters, September 4), the statisticians surely realize that their arguments lead inevitably to the concept of an elected Cabinet? Such a course is an anathema to all but the acolytes of Mr Benn, and could hardly be expected to find favour within the Tory Party as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
C. GOODSON-WICKES,
Islington Central Conservative Association,
18a Furlong Road, N7.

SHEFFIELD

Where folk are a bit brash

Yorkshire has never been too happy about Sheffield. For one thing it is tucked away down there, as if it would really like to be in Derbyshire and the people are a bit brash—more, Michael Parkinson, than Geoffrey Boycott.

Sheffield spends £100,000 a year on industrial and commercial promotion overseas; its chief public relations officer is yokable in several languages; the city's reaction to recession is to get up and fight for its share of the market and it is not above grabbing somebody else's share as well.

Perhaps a little more cooperation with neighbours would be more, particularly in particular, relations with the county authority, South Yorkshire, seem to have been difficult since local government reorganisation. But a Sheffield official said flatly: "The agencies of government in this country is that local authorities compete."

The population of the city is estimated at 543,000. It has a higher proportion of elderly inhabitants than the national average. Although the number of school-leavers is about to reach a peak, a low birthrate means a trough in the numbers of children entering schools.

Sheffield has traditionally enjoyed low unemployment, not unconnected with a reputation for good labour relations and perhaps low wages. But in other cities, manufacturing jobs are declining while those in service industries are rising, though not fast enough to take up all the slack. City Trends, produced by the council's corporate management unit, comments: "An increasingly large proportion of the unemployed are over 50 years of age, and find reemployment difficult."

Insurance, banking, and other white-collar employment, coupled with expansion in shops and services, have led the switch to the service industries. Distribution and research have also played a part, while estate agency is a growing industry, with three London Street opening offices in Sheffield for business transactions.

It is a comment on the times that two of the principal employers are Sheffield's Metropolitan District Council and the local area health authorities. One of the biggest boosts for office jobs in the next five years will come from the establishment in the city of a department of the Manpower Services Commission.

Much of the employment being lost is male, much of that being gained is female. The Lord Mayor, Councilor Bill Owen, a trade unionist whose memories go back to the 1930s, has called together a joint group of councillors and district manpower committee members to plan ways of offsetting unemployment.

"We are saying the present situation is of a temporary nature, and when the upturn in trade comes we shall require skilled workers."

Sheffield is a steel centre, but it produces mostly special steel alloys, and only half the industry is run by the British Steel Corporation. Investment has been heavy, but this has increased productivity and reduced jobs.

Because steel and other local industries, such as refractories, are energy-intensive, the sharp increases in the prices of gas, electricity and coal worry businessmen. Some firms spend £2m to £3m a year on gas, a member of the Chamber of Commerce said.

Rising rates, especially the cost of financing South Yorkshire County Council's policy of cheap public transport, also rankle. Mr Kenneth Jacques, president of the chamber, has declared: "It is utter economic nonsense for Sheffield and South Yorkshire to be spending money in attempts to attract new industries to Sheffield, while at the same time fighting other firmly based industries away by the use of the rate demands."

Some 85 per cent of the chamber's members employ fewer than 200 people, and half employ fewer than 50. Attention is turning to the man starting his own business, especially as some redundant workers are receiving £20,000 golden handshakes.

Sheffield Centre for Innovation and Productivity, part of the local polytechnic, provides advice and courses for small firms, rather generously defined as those with fewer than 250 employees. The centre says dryly: "Small firm managers want answers to practical problems rather than theory about the new frontiers of behavioural science."

It is fortuitous, with today's energy problems, that the centre's industrial liaison officer, Mr K. A. Hall, is a fuel engineer.

"The Government's decision to phase out Sheffield's late 1970s gas works over the next two years, with consequent loss of grants, has complicated the task of attracting new industry. The city also fears this may affect its assistance from the European Regional Development Fund. But as ever, the city is fighting back, having made a strong claim for an enterprise zone to help rehabilitate the Autoclife district, which was a major employer. The council's housing programme has suffered severely from economic restraints. Surveying the towering flats built on a hillside looking down on the city centre, one sees that the decline in new building is perhaps, fortunately, the least known as Park Hill and Hyde Park, places of pilgrimage for architects and planners when first developed, are now identified in official terms as 'areas of worst deprivation' whose environment is 'bleak, dreary and hostile'."

The present focus of residential engineering is Mosborough, a new town style complex, about a mile from the heart of the city. I hope it will not become the Park Hill and Hyde Park of the year 2000.

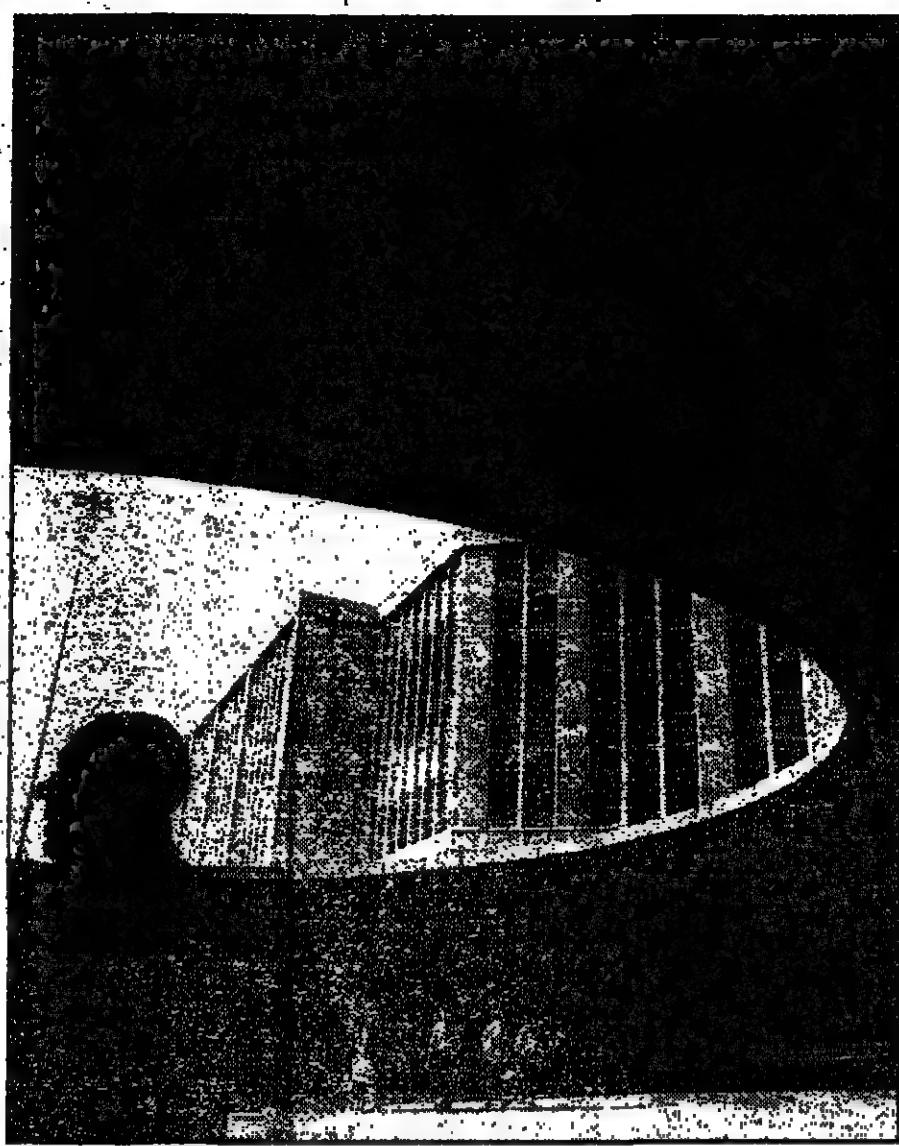
Office development in Sheffield received a setback with the rejection by the Government of a scheme opposite the town hall. This may help the letting of other office blocks. Estate agents are, as ever, confident that a shortage of office space is just around the corner.

Sheffield's motorway communications are good, with the M1 passing within the city boundary. But citizens are not happy with their rail services.

Patrick O'Leary



Clean geometric shapes replace the legendary grime in new Sheffield. Left: the extension to the old, Gothic-style town hall. Right: the Fargate underground shopping centre, known locally as "the hole".



Men of steel disdain to lick their wounds

It would be idle to pretend that in the present adverse economic conditions, industry in Sheffield remains unaffected. Crippling interest rates, the strong pound inhibiting export sales and the ever-present problem of increasing import penetration in most areas have affected Sheffield as heavily as anywhere in the country.

Unemployment is on the increase and the latest available figures show 22,457 people out of work, about 12 per cent of the working population. Even so, this is still marginally below the regional and national average. Short-time working is being operated in many areas.

That is the bad news. On the credit side it may be said that one commodity not in short supply in Sheffield is spirit. Rather than sitting licking their wounds, Sheffield industrialists are out, actively searching for business and in many cases winning it. The local authority is adopting an attacking, rather than a defensive attitude in its search for new industry and more jobs. It is true that jobs are being lost, rather faster than they are being created, but this is acting as a spur to greater effort.

Mr Peter Wigley, whose job it is to promote Sheffield, points out that the city council is spending a great deal of money on promoting exports from, and attracting investments to, the city. He said: "We are doing a lot of overseas trade promotion and are adopting an outward-

looking stance. We are far from downhearted. Sheffield has a reputation of doing things for itself and we are doing them."

The city is still fairly heavily committed to traditional industries, revolving round steel-making, but over-dependence on steel and engineering is a hard learnt lesson and years of concentrating on building a diversified industrial scene have paid off. No longer does a slump in steel mean an entirely impoverished city.

Mr Wigley says: "We now have a much broader-based industry and we would like to broaden it even more."

To this end Sheffield has turned its attention to the modern technologically-based industries, electronics, plastics and microchips, and is striving to prove that from all points of view Sheffield is ideally situated. It has a sizeable pool of adaptable labour, good communications, a good industrial relations record and, these days, a clean and attractive environment.

Mr Wigley said promotional effort was being mainly directed at Germany, the United States and Japan. In support of its environment, neutral attractions, it might be said in passing that Sheffield, once one of the grimmest cities in Britain, now claims to be one of the cleanest, if not the cleanest, in the country. To back up this point, Mr Wigley mentions that last year the city was the venue of 703 conferences, mostly non-industrial, and attended by 60,000 delegates. It is also developing an impressive tourist trade, a thought that would have provoked a hollow laugh a few years ago.

One of the unique features of Sheffield's industrial scene is a regular gathering of everybody who may be remotely involved in industrial development. Run by the local authority, this Industrial Development Advisory Committee comprises local MPs of both parties, city council representatives, trade union and management members, officials of the Departments of Industry and Employment, even the local police. The committee meets every two months to allow members to raise matters of interest and concern to all sections of industry.

Mr Wigley said: "We believe it is the only committee of its kind in the country. Basically its job is to advise the local authority, but all kinds of matters are raised in a non-political manner and frequently it is possible to take some kind of action whether it be through the MPs or anybody else."

Another indication of Sheffield's get-up-and-go may be found in trade missions conducted by Sheffield Chamber of Commerce. Typical was a mission to Canada and the United States earlier this year. It is confidently predicted that the mission will produce business worth more than £3m for local firms. The expected orders will be in steel and engineering products but the mission also revealed prospects for other steel-related products.

One of the areas in which a boost in sales is expected is the hand-tool industry. The Sheffield-based Federation of British Hand Tool Manufacturers launched a full-blooded "Better Buy - British Tools" campaign, running from August to December. The results will be monitored to determine if an even larger-scale campaign with increased funds should continue in 1981.

Mr Geoffrey Ward, the federation president, took the opportunity of the launch to put a few facts straight. He emphasized that in spite of soaring imports, tool manufacturers were not looking for protection in the form of blanket import controls. The federation was, however, looking for reciprocity of trading opportunity with the many countries which effectively prevented free access for British tools into their markets. He said: "We do seek fair trade. If there is unfair trading in imports which we will invoke to set the balance fairly."

One of the main problems is that the EEC, supported by the British Government, has negotiated trade agreements with China, Yugoslavia, Andean Pact countries and Brazil, and each country has been granted favourable rates of duty entry into Britain. In some cases nil duty applies. Mr Ward points out that British tools going into these countries are subject to duties of six or seven times the British rate as a minimum deterrent and in some cases no entry at all is permitted.

The federation is seeking Government help in the form of import controls on hand tools from iron curtain countries who are delivering large stocks to Britain at subsidised prices. This kind of action is an effort to secure fair trading and should not be interpreted as seeking protection, the federation says. In Mr Ward's words: "Times are tough and we are fighting hard to seek a fair trading basis with Government and with only moderate hope of success."

He sees the campaign as "a positive effort by fighters, rather than as the suavelling of a beaten industry."

The aim of the campaign is to highlight the quality, reliability and value for money in British-made tools. By stimulating the demand for British tools it is hoped to strengthen the industry, whose substantial exports are a valuable contribution to Britain's balance of payments. Included in the campaign will be a retail trade window display, a series of consumer competitions and press promotion. Competitions will be on the theme "Do it yourself with British tools". The federation hopes to reach 10 million readers of regional newspapers.

The hand-tool home market was valued at £198.5m last year. Imported goods accounted for 46.6 per cent of the market. Exports are worth £101m and the proportion of production exported last year was 48.8 per cent. All figures are provisional.

Ronald Kershaw
Northern Industrial
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Another problem, and one that has been a constant source of concern to British private producers, is that they are the only steelmakers in the world not receiving subsidies in one form or another. There has been a dialogue between the Government and the private sector on this matter for some considerable time. The British Government's attitude towards subsidies and EEC competitors is that it would

prefer to see subsidies in other countries dismantled rather than give away subsidies in Britain. "We have come to the point where this is an impossible dream", a BISPA spokesman said. If help in one form or the other were possible, private sector producers of high-alloy special steels were quite sure they could keep out imports to the home market.

In recent months, increasing energy costs have proved such a cause for concern in both public and private sectors that a joint approach has been made to Government to try to obtain relief. The steel industry is faced with a proposal for a 30 per cent increase in electricity costs. The BSC has given a warning that if such an increase becomes a reality then steel production in South Yorkshire will be a doubtful proposition. At the beginning of last month the Yorkshire Electricity Board ruled out price cuts for BSC, its biggest customer. The YEB to make an exception of any customer—hence the appeal to the Government.

The joint paper deals with all kinds of energy and points out that in 1979 the steel industry accounted for 9 per cent of the total industrial sales of British Gas; 15.7 per cent of the Central Electricity Generating Board's industrial supply and 8.4 per cent of the British consumption of fuel oil. It is calculated that a quarter of the cost of producing liquid steel comes in energy costs. Downstream industries using the steel that is made reckon that between 8 per cent and 17 per cent of costs go in energy, depending on the process involved.

In each of the next two years a fall in the consumption of steel of one million tonnes, 8 per cent, is predicted. The joint paper suggests that any big increase in energy costs will almost certainly result in many British steel plants being closed, irrespective of their potential for future service to British manufacturing industry. The paper goes on to compare and contrast the costs foreign users of bulk energy have to pay and shows the British steel industry to be suffering grave disadvantages.

What of the future? Mr Pennington said: "I cannot see European steel coming out of the doldrums for some considerable time. The present position will remain through 1981-82, but it is to be hoped, not quite as bad as the past couple of months have been."

Mr Pennington sees the crucial factor as the next round of wage settlements. He said: "Look at the production chain, the men who mine coal, those who make electricity, those who provide goods and services so that we can make steel. We all have to become more efficient, and if there is a weak link in the chain it will be fatal. Certainly this coming round of wage settlements is important. We cannot go on at the sort of level we have been going on and this is true right through the chain. We cannot afford to pay ourselves any more money. Right across the place there must be low wage settlements this time otherwise we compound the problem."

R.K.

Weak link will be fatal

It would be difficult to find, in recent times, a more depressed or progressively depressing situation than that which now faces the steel industry at Sheffield (or indeed anywhere else in Britain). The order book for steel, generally, is very poor. There is a lot of running down of stock by consumers and a considerable tonnage of steel is still being imported. The principal steel user, the motor vehicle industry, has its own problems of plunging sales and layoffs and this bounces straight back to the steel producers.

The result of all this is that in both public and private sectors many steelworks are on short time, summer holidays breaks have been extended and there are fears of further rationalization, particularly in the public sector. None of this comes as a shock to the British Steel Corporation. Mr John Pennington, managing director of BSC Yorkshire and Humberside, said the three factors of increased imports, the recession in manufacturing industry and destocking were forecast during the steel strike. If there was any surprise it was that the situation was rather worse than forecast. "We got the pattern right but the extent wrong. The placing of orders for steel generally is at a low ebb and it will take a month or two to work through the system", Mr Pennington said.

In the private sector, the British Independent Steel Producers' Association at Sheffield pointed out that some companies in the high-speed and stainless steel areas were on a four-day week before the summer break and would be on a three-day week on their return. A more intense recession than expected and, again, increased imports were causing great concern.

BISPA makes the point that the recession in high-speed and stainless steel has been with the industry since 1974. It became a little better for short time, then plunged into an import-led further recession. The association says that about 12 countries are involved in imports to Britain. About 55 per cent to 60 per cent of imports of special steels come from EEC partners, about 25 per cent comes from Sweden and Austria and the rest from such countries as Poland, Czechoslovakia, Brazil, Spain and the United States.

Although, strictly speaking, the events leading to the BSC strike were not the business of the private sector, many private companies were drawn into the dispute because of the common factor of trade union organization. BISPA believes that some foreign customers may well have panicked and they might have done and decided, on the ground of security of supply, to look elsewhere for their special steels.

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SHEFFIELD

Cutlery trade wants imports cut



Sheffield's cutlery industry, which few people would dispute means Britain's cutlery industry, has lived with recessionary trends for the past 20 years. The present parlous state of the British economy makes matters just a little worse. Nobody seems sure how many people are employed in the industry because silverware is often lumped together with cutlery, but the Cutlery and Silverware Association puts the figure at about 5,000.

The industry is one consisting of fairly small companies. Large companies, which may be counted on one hand, employ hundreds

but by no means all, are working reduced hours and there have been redundancies recently. The problems of the industry go back to the late 1960s when stainless steel cutlery became popular and most of the business went to overseas manufacturers. Cutlery people tend to smile wryly when other industries complain bitterly about import penetration and point out that this is a battle they have been fighting for 20 years.

Mr R. G. West, president of the Cutlery and Silverware Association, makes no bones about the situation. "We are in the middle of a nasty recession which is hitting high-priced business. Superimposed on this we have ridiculously high interest rates and a ridiculously strong pound which is hitting exports and does not really reflect the state of British industry."

He is under no illusions about any help that might be forthcoming from the Government. "It has set its face against selective import controls. We have asked for them until we are at a sort of numb stage. Representations for some kind of restrictions on imports from low-cost countries have been made to successive governments without success. Even within the European Community there is no common attitude towards import controls, and this is a sore point with British cutlery."

Mr West pointed out that some countries, particularly Italy and France, played by their own rules. They imposed what he calls "clever little restrictions" which indirectly affected British industry. As an example, he said, import restrictions on table knives from Japan were imposed by these countries. This means the sales of cutlery could not be imported and as a consequence the Japanese turned to Britain and other unrestricted markets to concentrate their export effort. "Thus the continent, which the cutlery industry of Britain had reached a point where it was protected and the home manufacturers allowed to invest and expand, giving them the edge over competitors such as Britain."

Mr West said that on balance his members were not opposed to free trade and recognized that to a large extent there must be an interchange but the import situation in Britain had reached a point where some action must be taken. "Another champion of import control is Mr John Price, president of the recently formed Federation of British Cutlery Manufacturers. There is little love lost between the industry's two organizations, although many manufacturers belong to both. Whatever one may think of Mr Price's tactics it cannot be denied that he is active, vocal and has enjoyed a certain success. He campaigned long and hard for cutlery to be marked with its country of origin, and he won. He is now campaigning for protection from Far East imports."

He contends that unless the Government introduces measures which will assure the British industry of a voluminous home market, then cutlery will become a cottage industry inside the life of the present Government.

This view is not shared by

Sheffield's name is synonymous with fine silverware.

The Cutlery and Silverware Association. But then again it does not share Mr Price's desire for a 100 per cent "made in Britain" cutlery industry. He claims that only 10 per cent of the home industry is making wholly British cutlery. The rest is importing it at various stages of manufacture and finishing it in Sheffield.

He maintains that practically no stainless steel cutlery is made in Britain now. Recently he had a two-hour meeting with Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State at the Department of Trade, and is preparing a report for him on the state of the industry.

Mr West agrees that a lot of cutlery is imported and finished at Sheffield but suggests that it has never damaged the high quality cutlery industry. He sounded a note of warning when he suggested that if distinctions were made against cutlery other than finished imports might be subject to restrictions. He mentioned Hoover washers and Ford cars.

Nobody in the cutlery industry at Sheffield is under any illusions about present and future problems. The general view is that the position of manufacturers will not ease until retailers start to replace stocks, and that will not happen until the consumer starts spending again.

Mr West admits that the short-term economic outlook leaves a bleak deal, as he believes that the industry's prospects are good and that this applies particularly to cutlery made in sterling silver.

The Cutlery and Silverware Association pointed out at the time of the great upsurge in silver prices earlier this year that the metal had steadily increased in value over the past 50 years. There were not many commodities, he said, that could be bought and used daily and still be worth many times more than the original purchase price at the end of half a century. A set of silver cutlery bought in 1947 would today probably sell for 50 times the original purchase price. The association believes that with good quality products and the right kind of promotion, the industry will survive.

Ronald Kershaw

Investment more selective

The city council has been heavily involved in promoting industrial development in Sheffield since 1969. The council has built more than 180 units on nine main sites. Two more sites are being developed.

But according to City Trends, a survey produced by the council, the main volume of accommodation for industry and for offices comes from the private sector. At present the figures are running at 150,000 to 200,000 sq ft in the private sector, compared with an average 30,000 to 40,000 sq ft a year by the council.

The industrial development office leased 20 industrial sites during 1979, and these were mainly providing land for warehousing, depots, vehicle and maintenance units. Only four sites were leased to manufacturing firms, the survey said. "During the early part of 1980 there has been a steady demand for land in Sheffield."

Because the city has so many old and decaying factories, much of the development is taking place within two or three miles of the centre. At Attercliffe, to the east of the city, space is also being provided by the removal of old houses, on the ground that pollution, traffic and noise have made the area no longer suitable for residential use.

Although factory rents in general are below £2 a sq ft, during 1979 prices for good sites rose and in at least one case reached £100,000 an acre. But the general recession has cut investment, which is becoming more selective.

Provision of small premises, particularly for starter units, has generally been left to the local authority. The city's first industrial improvement area, under a 1978 Inner Urban Areas Act, was at Wellington Street.

Covering about 200 business premises, employing 1,600 people in a mixture of industry, offices, shops and distributive trades. This rundown area—in which, it is fair to say, much of the dereliction was caused by planning blight—is being rejuvenated, with a combination of new buildings on vacant land and refurbishment of existing properties. It is hoped this will restore confidence and increase employment.

An interesting development in small premises has been the demand for jewellery manufacturing workshops in the inner city, attracted by the city's office. The volume of articles passing through the office has increased sharply.

Developers and city officials received a shock in August when Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, rejected a 40,000 sq ft shop and office development in the Fargate, opposite the town hall. What disturbed them was that it was not a planning inquiry refusal, but rejection of a compulsory purchase order for part of the site.

More than most cities, Sheffield has made heavy use of compulsory purchase as part of comprehensive development schemes. Planners will be wondering whether the Government is closing that particular avenue.

However, it is unlikely the move will cause any serious shortage of offices or shops. The city seems to have enough of both at present, with more offices being built, including a fortress-like block at the end of The Moor, which will house part of the Manpower Services Commission. Rents are still about £4.50 a sq ft at the top end, with other sites some fetching less than £2 a sq ft.

Since costs for a building started today would probably require rents of about £5 a sq ft, there seems little prospect of an early start on the Sheffield Valley complex adjoining the city centre. This would include 250,000 sq ft of offices, a hotel, and shops.

Councils, which have always favoured vast housing estates, road schemes, and town halls, fall back in horror at the thought of a hypermarket. This always seems to be a perfectly defensible and even useful modern innovation, one of the few which make life easier and cheaper for the man in the street, or rather the car.

Sheffield is no exception to what might be termed hyperphobia. However, while out-of-town hypermarkets are anathema, it is rumoured that a more favourable eye might be cast upon a hypermarket being allowed on a two-acre site at present occupied by the disused Royal Hospital, because it is close to the city centre. Putting such a traffic generator into a built-up area would seem to negate most of the advantages of having a hypermarket.

While complex developments wait, some of Sheffield's old buildings are being put to fresh use. It is pleasant to learn that a firm of chartered surveyors has moved out of a modern multi-story office block into Old Bank House, built in 1728. Once derelict it has been carefully restored both inside and out.

It was not so pleased to find the old Playhouse had wished to make way for offices. Somehow, the new Crucible Theatre does not seem a suitable substitute. However, restoration and upgrading can produce strange results. Moshborough, on the south-east edge of the city boundary, is being developed as a series of self-contained unwinding with a district centre and its own employment estate.

A few weeks ago South Yorkshire County Council refused permission for the National Coal Board to stock coal on a site in the middle of Moshborough, after strong local objections. The decision seems a little hard; the site they planned to use was a former colliery.

Patrick O'Leary

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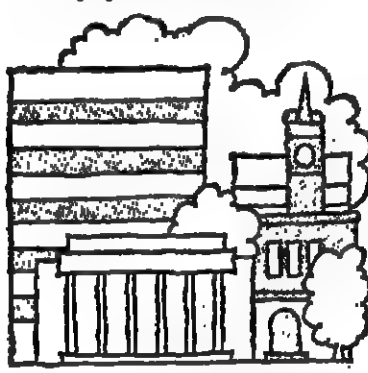
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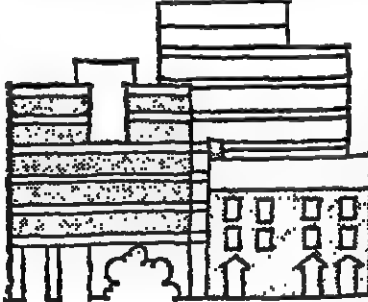
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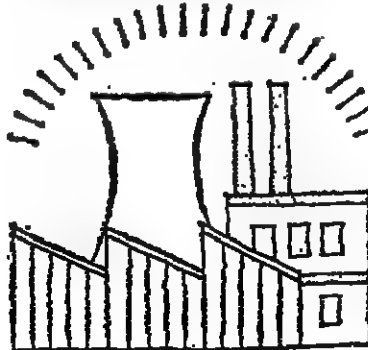
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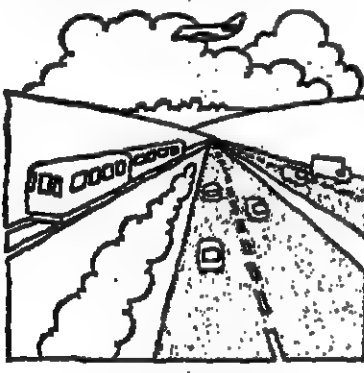
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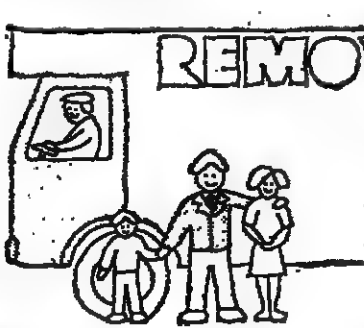
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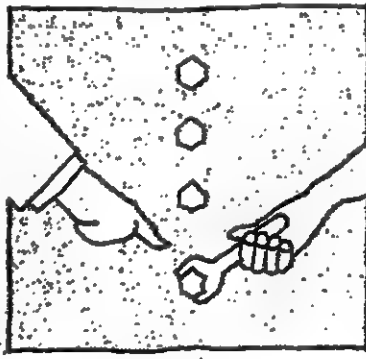
Service industries receive up to £2000 for each employee moved to Sheffield.



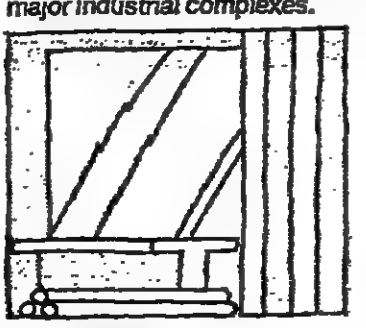
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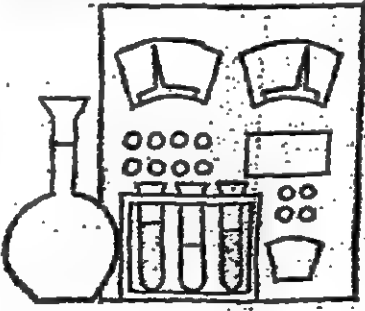
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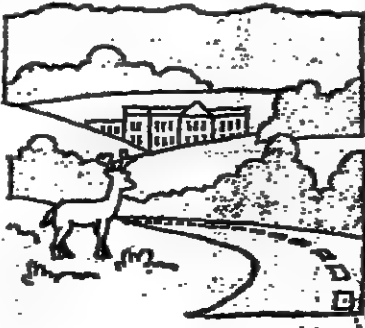
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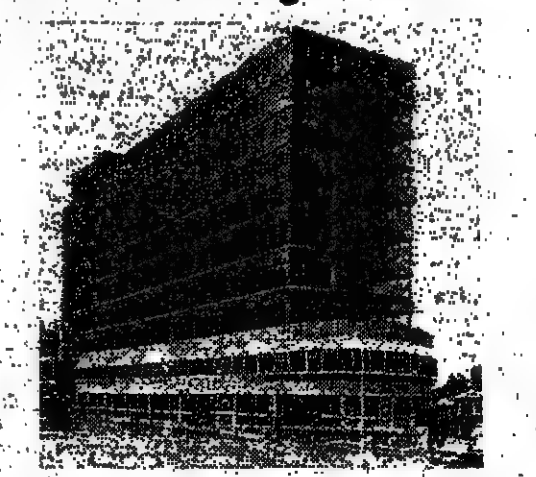


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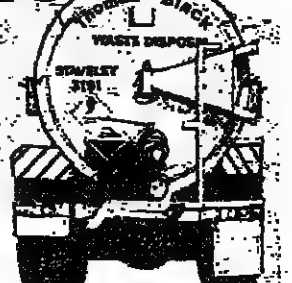
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Exploiting a queen

Only Yorkshiremen would try to sell Scotsmen holidays about Mary Queen of Scots, industry figures indicated and succeed. Sheffield is making good use of the queen's 14 years spent in the city after she fled from Scottish rebels and accepted the dubious protection of Queen Elizabeth I.

Little remains of Sheffield Castle, where she was held for some time in the early 1550s and captivity, but the House of Sheffield Manor, thought to have been another of her prisons, survives. So does Chatsworth, in Derbyshire, which she visited during her long imprisonment. Fortunately, Mary Stuart's blood is not on the hands of the city, as she was executed at Fotheringhay Castle, Northamptonshire, in 1587.

Following in the steps of Queen Mary makes a good excuse for visiting some of the city's stately homes, castles and attractive countryside surrounding Sheffield. A corner of the Peak National Park lies within the city boundaries. So far there has been no attempt to capitalize on the 18 days Cardinal Wolsey spent in Sheffield on his way to execution nearly 50 years before the Scottish queen. But no doubt Mr Keith Cheetham, conference and tourist officer, has his mind.

Mr Cheetham organized a "welcome home" celebration last year, when 1,000 people living in 30 countries, who had emigrated from Sheffield, returned to spend their summer holiday in the city. Some must have noticed a number of changes since they went away, including the effects of clean air legislation and the accompanying scrubbing of Victorian buildings.

Unfortunately, Sheffield's boom for many years that it makes a good use of its was the cleanest industrial residence in Norfolk

city, in Europe has received a setback. Departure of about Mary Queen of Scots, industry figures indicated and succeed. Sheffield is making good use of the queen's 14 years spent in the city after she fled from Scottish rebels and accepted the dubious protection of Queen Elizabeth I.

But I do not deny that the years, and the developers, have brought improvements. Whereas the heart of Sheffield used to be grimy, old and ugly, it is now shiny, new and alive. A place, where surviving buildings, such as the town hall and what used to be Kenway House, stand out like familiar faces in a town of strangers.

Tourism arrived in Sheffield almost by stealth. A study carried out in 1973 by the British Travel Association, now the British Tourist Authority, showed it was visited by 250,000 people who spent nearly £2m, which must be a tourist centre. Local residents were incredulous; it seemed like receiving a cheque from a friend when you did not have a premium bond.

But they accepted the new role with enthusiasm. It is estimated there were two million visitors during 1979 — businessmen, conference delegates, tourists and day trippers. Over the past decade conference business has grown to more than 700 gatherings a year, some with delegates from overseas.

Officials have been hoping to attract a new hotel to supplement existing accommodation. But the prospects do not appear good in present economic conditions. During the long vacation, brief beds are supplemented by 4,000 available at the city's university and polytechnic. The polytechnic also makes good use of its modern student residence in Norfolk



Tourists mingle with the city dwellers in Fargate pedestrian shopping centre.

For rainy days, not unusual in Sheffield even in better summer than this, there are the richly endowed Mappin Art Gallery and Graves Art Gallery, and several museums. These include, a short drive from the city, the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet, where some of the eighteenth-century work-shops and tools which laid the foundations of the city's prosperity are preserved. Visitors may also be allowed to look round a modern steelworks, silverware factory, or the local assay office.

Finally, Sheffield now enjoys nightclubs. It has come a long way from the days when the city fathers rejected with scorn a suggestion that public houses should stay open until 10.30 pm for the benefit of steelworkers whose shifts ended at 10 pm.

P.O.L.

From Schwarzkopf to pot black

One day in 1977, the director of the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, telephoned the Guinness Book of Records. "I claim the world record," he said, "for the largest number of separate performances inside one theatre building within 24 hours. I've had six brand new plays on today, some of them more than once, not to mention the Fairley Engineering Works Band and George Melly."

The Crucible never did make the record book, for there is no such category. But if there were, it would stand a good chance of a mention. Being Sheffield's only professional theatre, it has to be many things to many people, accommodating Elizabeth Schwarzkopf, world professional pianist, and most things in between.

It was built in 1971, at least partly modelled on Tyrone Guthrie's pioneering theatre in Stratford, Ontario, and it is there because Sheffield's old Playhouse was obliged to close for a road-widening scheme. As it is a road-widening scheme, things, the road never was widened, and the Playhouse stood empty for a decade until its demolition quite recently.

Being the city's sole professional stage, it is difficult for the Crucible to specialise in any one area. But it has made a particular name for itself in mounting new plays, of which there have been at least 51, and in picking productions which later transfer successfully to London, the latest example, of course, being Chicago.

It has, perhaps, thrown up some native Sheffield players, and it has wished, for although Ron Hutchinson's *Says I Says He* was first performed on the Crucible stage and went on to New York and Los Angeles.

But one of its most successful recent ventures was *One Day in Sheffield* by Ken Doyle and Ken Robinson, in which ordinary citizens were invited to telephone or write with details of exactly what they did on a particular day. From the several tons of material there was carved a successful play which involved large numbers of the town's people.

Although Sheffield has no full-time professional symphony orchestra, the city does have a short of good music from the regular fortnightly visit by the Hallé from Manchester, to the amateur but none the less ambitious and well-regarded South Yorkshire Opera, which this year has had the courage to tackle both *La Bohème* and *The Magic Flute*.

And there are, of course, the brass bands; if there are few actually based within the city boundary, there is a rich and flourishing brass tradition in the surrounding South Yorkshire mining areas, with famous names like Grimethorpe and Roy Mason's own Dodworth, all keen to take part in an annual brass festival at the Crucible.

Every large provincial city likes to boast of its art galleries, usually provided by the munificence of some late Victorian manufacturer, and Sheffield lays strong claim to being placed in the premier league of such places. Its two civic galleries, the Graves and the Mappin, have been considered for regional status under the current funding proposals, now under discussion by the Government. That means, simply, that the collections are regarded as sufficiently worthy to attract central government support as well as local authority funding.

Because of the unusual size of its rooms, the Mappin is particularly suited to the display of very large British paintings. Last winter's huge and varied collection, British Painting, which toured the country, began at the Mappin, and only at the Mappin could it all be accommodated under one roof.

Mr Frank Constantine, director of the city's galleries, believes that his task is to juxtapose the traditional with the contemporary, as an illustration he mounted a summer exhibition at the Mappin this year displaying a Hockney alongside a Lord Leighton, showing different approaches to the same subject.

His approach seems to pay off, as he manages to get about 500,000 visitors a year into his two main galleries, roughly equivalent to each citizen of Sheffield visiting a gallery once.

Sheffielders are plainly involved in their local arts, both visual and performing. Actors and other visitors constantly remark on the friendliness both of staff and audiences. Indeed the dramatic critic of *The Times*, visiting the lively Crucible with its restaurant and bazaar-like foyer, was prompted to write: "By comparison the National Theatre feels like a morgue."

Alan Hamilton

Coe revives lost lustre

When Sebastian Coe arrived home from Moscow to a hero's welcome in his home town, it was more than his 1,500 metres gold medal that the people were celebrating. After a long period in the shadows, Sheffield had been put back decisively in the sporting limelight.

Not that Coe was by any means the first athlete to bring glory to the city. Sheffield enjoyed its share of Olympic renown during the still hardly recalled-as-the-golden-age-of-Sheffield-four-champions-of-John-and-of-the-F.A. Sir Charles Clegg, Arthur Sherwood, and much earlier, the silver medal in the marathon at the notable 1936 Olympics was won by a Sheffielder, Arthur Harper, to the undisputed advantage of the city.

However, gold medals have been scarce in Sheffield in recent years. The F.A. Cup, the most coveted Sheffield honour, has been won by the city since 1935, when Wednesday beat West Bromwich. Memories of Wembley are even fainter, their return to the city after five years in the 1925. Nor has the League Cup been won in the city, its last triumph in 1930, and only once has it graced the boardroom, back in 1890s.

Yet Sheffield lays some claim to being the birthplace of organized soccer. Sheffield F.C., an amateur club founded in 1857, believes itself to be the oldest in existence. And the city has its own Football Association, with its own written laws of the game, well before the formation in 1863 of the national F.A., which adopted many of Sheffield's rules as its own.

The nineteenth century is still hardly recalled as the golden age of Sheffield football, when even the chairman of the F.A., Sir Charles Clegg, Arthur Sherwood, and much earlier, the silver medal in the marathon at the notable 1936 Olympics was won by a Sheffielder, Arthur Harper, to the undisputed advantage of the city.

More recent times have been called "the 70-70 years", with both clubs making frequent journeys in both directions up and down the divisions. Last season, the two sides found themselves joined in residence in the third division for the first time. Wednesday have managed to be second in the division, and have been recently returned to the second after five years in the 1970. United were in the top division in 1975-76 season, but since then have made steady downward progress to the third.

But in spite of performance which in recent seasons may have fallen marginally short of sparkling, both clubs enjoy excellent facilities. Wednesday's ground at Hillsborough is one of the largest football amphitheatres outside Wembley, and the fans benefit from its regular use as neutral territory for FA Cup semi-finals.

Bramall Lane, United's home, is another well-equipped stadium of large capacity, but curiously its improvement and expansion some years ago signalled both the first step in United's decline from first division soccer and the end of regular first-class cricket in Sheffield.

Earlier this century Bramall Lane was a leading venue for both football and cricket. But when, in 1973, United decided to build an additional stand, it cut right across the cricket pitch, and Yorkshire had to leave town. It still plays two matches a year at Abbeydale sports club, also the home of the venerable Sheffield F.C., but the city would dearly like its regular cricket back.

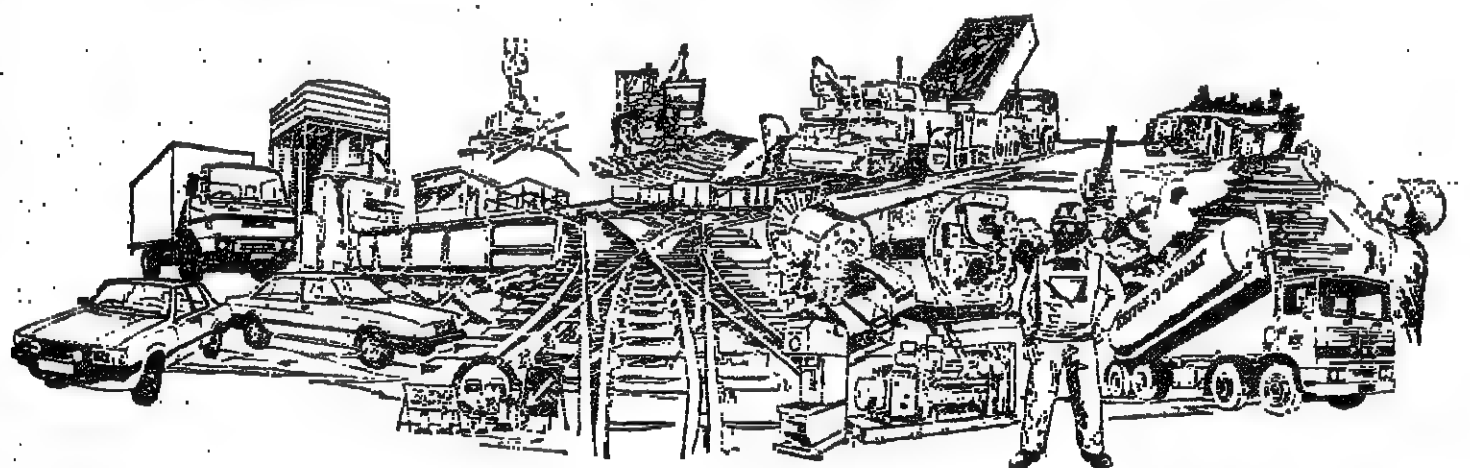
Help, however, is at hand. A £100,000 appeal to upgrade a cricket ground at Sawley Road to first-class status is three quarters of the way to its target, and there is every hope that Yorkshire will return in the 1983 season with between 10 and 12 days' cricket a year.

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THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



Stock Markets

FT Index 494.4
FT 1000 69.44

Sterling

\$2.4135
Index 76.5

Dollar

Index 83.7
DM 1.7815

Gold

\$651.50

Money

3 mth sterling 16.6-16.7
3 mth Euro \$11.5-11.7
6 mth Euro \$12.1-11.1
(Friday's close)

Technical problems shut BSC furnace

Europe's biggest blast furnace, at British Steel's Redcar plant on Teesside, has been forced to shut down because of technical problems, according to a spokesman. The 111m furnace, which was commissioned last year, is one of British Steel's showpiece investments. About 1,500 workers have been told either to take a week of their holidays or to stay at home. The spokesman said: "We have got technical problems. The furnace is shut down and we are working round the clock and we hope to overcome the problems soon."

3P drills Lincoln wells

Round-the-clock drilling has started on three new oil wells at the Beekingham Oil Field near Gainsborough in Lincolnshire. 3P is extending the oil field after having been successful in the area.

Prince of Wales award

Prince Charles is to launch a new award to encourage people with original ideas for industry. The Prince of Wales Award for Industrial Innovation and Production is being promoted by Tomorrow's World, the BBC TV programme.

Shell managers win

A Shell management team led with a computer-aided pump expanded production, to win the European Cup for management against seven other countries. They made a 7m profit on selling imaginary number down the line with a winning margin of 15m, the biggest in international management competition.

Longkong prime up

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and other banks announced that they will raise their prime lending rate by half a percentage point to 10 1/2 per cent on September 9.

Port time at Virella

Jersey Kaywood, a division of Virella, the textile company, has introduced a four-week for about 600 workers in its factories in Sutton-in-Cleveland and Northfleet in Kent.

pan's new airport

Spain is to build a new airport on a man-made island off the coast of Seville in Andalusia. It will cost about £15m and 10 years to build.

US Steel dumping charge against EEC nations may be dropped soon

From Frank Vogel, US Economics Correspondent, Washington, Sept. 7.

The US Steel Corporation may soon agree to withdraw its official anti-dumping complaint lodged with the United States Government against steel exporters in European EEC countries, including Britain.

Community officials have given a warning that American Government action on the complaint, involving the imposition of quotas on European steel shipments to America, could lead to a transatlantic trade war.

There is now a distinct chance that US Steel will withdraw its complaint. A complicated deal appears to have been agreed, but it still awaits final White House approval, according to informed sources.

EEC officials hope a final pact may be agreed within the next two weeks.

Negotiations, including the United States Government, Community officials, the American steel industry, and its trade union leaders, have all taken part in attempts to persuade US Steel to withdraw its complaint. All the major issues in the negotiations are now said to have been resolved, but the sources stressed that some prominent White House officials appear to be opposed to the deal.

At the moment, the negotiations seem to have agreed that the US will accept a mechanism which would be introduced once again. This mechanism, created over two years ago and suspended when the company filed its complaint in March, would allow the price for imported steel to be determined by Japanese costs.

The base price will be lifted under the deal that has been negotiated. In March, US Steel argued that the method of determining the base price involved "inadequacies and distortions" and it is believed some changes in the method are being contemplated.

The sources said the deal would not involve any set quotas on European steel shipments to the United States. However, it is likely that there will be some general understanding that no volume figures will be set. The deal would involve a revised trigger price system, offered by European steel exporters to the American steel industry, and these arrangements would be viewed by US Steel as sufficient to lead it to withdraw its complaint.

However, some White House officials are believed to be concerned that this deal may lead to higher domestic steel prices and that, in view of the prevailing high level of inflation, this deal should be rejected.

These officials are also thought to believe that President Carter will refuse to impose quotas on European steel shipments, irrespective of the International Trade Commission's findings on the US Steel complaint.

President Carter is keen to boost his support in the election campaign, and it would be helpful if he could be seen to be leading his country to a deal. His only trip out of Washington, on the campaign trail, was to New York.

Another trade dispute involving steel imports is unlikely to be settled before the presidential election on November 4.

The United Automobile Workers has filed a complaint and the International Trade Commission has refused a White House request for quick action on this. Hearings by the commission on the complaint are due to start on October 8 and a decision by the commission will not come before November 10.

Asda expansion will create 1,500 jobs in eight weeks

By Bill Johnston

In the next eight weeks 1,500 new jobs will be created by Asda, the supermarket chain, as it expands its operations. The company has announced that it will open five new supermarkets throughout the United Kingdom.

The plans come only a week after Associated Dairies announced a pre-tax profit rise for last year from £41m to £50m.

Investments totalling £15m are being made in the five new stores which will each employ 300 people. The first store opens today at Swanley in Kent. A store at Park Royal in London will open later this month and a third will open at Watlington, Hampshire. The others are at Blantyre in Scotland and Swansea.

Mr Peter Fraser-Williams, Asda's chairman, said: "We plan to open 20 more supermarkets during the next five years—10 of them in London and 10 in the home counties."

But other high street food retailers have not fared so well. Woolworth's announced a pre-tax profit rise last month and House of Fraser, which owns Harrods, suffered a first-half profit slump from £7.5m to £10.8m.

Food manufacturers are also feeling badly. The latest survey published by the Food and Drink Industries' Council revealed that the profitability of the food manufacturing industry had fallen sharply to its lowest level for more than five years.

The Food Manufacturers' Association has said food prices must rise 20 per cent this year to maintain profit margins.

Scandinavia takes top film awards

By Eynon Smart

Britain, Germany and France each took five awards at the twenty-first International Industrial Film Festival in Copenhagen last week. Although the festival was headed by the prizelists, none of the 15 winning films gained a grand prize. These went to Sweden and Denmark.

A total of 125 films were shown at the festival, including the United States and Japan.

The British awards included two in the industrial and commercial training category. The first in the category was *Pursuit of Efficiency*, from Rank Aids (and others), and the second was *Double-Headed Films*, from the services category.

The British Information Council, third in the educational establishments category with *Nature's Miracle* (Fleet Street Films) also won the Danish Agricultural Council's award for 1980.

AND

	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells
Norway Kr	32.02	31.52
Portugal Esc	123.50	117.00
Sw Fr	2.30	2.15
Spain Ptas	179.50	175.00
Sweden Kr	10.35	9.90
Switzerland Fr	4.10	3.90
US \$	2.47	2.40
Tugalsk Dr	74.00	69.50

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...can plans at the Democratic
convention a few weeks ago but
the first time the Carter camp
a full-scale assault on the opposi-

The budget director told a
Business League conference in
that the Republican plans would
revenues by at least \$285,000m (1
a year by 1985 and, to balance it
in 1985, the party would then
limit spending in that year to
less than \$100,000m above today's
level. He said that debt payments and
subsidies alone would account for

Car delegation to Japan seeks new restraints



Sir Bernard Scott, leading British team.

By Edward Townsend

Fresh attempts to win a further year of voluntary restraint by Japanese car makers on the United Kingdom market will be made next week when a team from the British motor industry visits Tokyo.

It seems certain, however, that the British delegation, led by Sir Bernard Scott, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, will face greater than usual hostility from the Japanese who will want some clear evidence that their "prudent marketing policy has assisted the recovery of the British industry."

The latest round of talks between the SMMT and the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) begins tomorrow and will cover the usual social and economic surrounding trade in motor products between the two countries.

The United Kingdom team includes Sir Bernard, Mr Pratt Thompson, chairman of BL International, Mr George Turnbull, a vice president of the SMMT and chairman and managing director of Talbot.

UK: Mr Hugh Cowie, the association's economic adviser, and Mr Anthony Naser, director of the SMMT.

Japanese car sales in the United Kingdom have been growing in recent months despite a steadily declining market. For the first eight months, Japanese sales captured 12.75 per cent of the market, and in August the penetration was just under 20 per cent.

Under the terms of the voluntary restraint policy, it is generally assumed that "prudent" means a maximum market share not exceeding 11 per cent. To achieve that figure this year will mean a substantial cutback in sales for the remaining three months.

Stocks of unsold new cars in Britain are thought to be about 500,000, and although some of these are Japanese, much higher levels have been built up by some European manufacturers.

Leaders of JAMA probably will stress at this week's talks that their sales will not exceed 11 per cent this year and the SMMT is confident that the voluntary policy will hold.

However, executives of some

Japanese car companies have been openly critical of the policy this year and most have faced increasing pressure from United Kingdom importing companies for a relaxation in their imports.

Datsun UK, the largest importer, issued a scathing attack on the policy last week. BL's lack of sales was not caused by Japanese registrations, it said, but must be due to the type of model they are trying to sell, the price, the quality and their marketing ability.

Consumers were being denied freedom of choice, Datsun said, and it accused the British motor industry of "bullying tactics" and "moral blackmail."

In an editorial in *The Engineer* last week, the SMMT was accused of "fighting the wrong battle and dodging the main issue." It added: "Months after months of its own figures show that the vast bulk of car imports come from Europe, and that the importers are only too often eminent members of the SMMT itself. Ford, Talbot and Vauxhall are major culprits, but on them the SMMT remains silent."

A new agreement on restraint however seems likely. Britain's Department of Trade has ruled out formal imports, but it has made clear that it expects both sides to work out a new formula, while the Japanese Ministry of Trade and Industry has been exerting pressure on manufacturers to maintain the "prudent" level.

High on the agenda for this week's talks will be the controversial decision by Hino, Japan's largest heavy truck maker, to import lorries to the United Kingdom from its Irish assembly plant. Some SMMT members say this is a flagrant breach of Japan's agreement not to export assembled trucks of more than 3.5 tons to Britain.

Overall, the discussions are taking place against a background of increasing protectionist fervour in Europe in which Japan is often singled out for criticism over its general trade imbalance with the West. In the United States, Ford has asked for government restrictions on imports of Japanese cars and trucks.

BSG chairman says 20 pc of motor dealers may close

By Clifford Webb

The slump in car sales may mean that as many as 20 per cent of car dealers will go out of business in the next two years, according to Mr Harry Crossman, chairman of BSG (the former Bristol Street Motors group) and a man widely regarded as the most successful car salesman in Britain.

On a conservative estimate there are 7,500 franchised outlets in the United Kingdom, which would mean 1,500 closures. Most would go out of business on two counts: many will result from straightforward bankruptcies, but a surprisingly large number would arise from people selling out to get a better return elsewhere, Mr Crossman said.

A lot of privately-owned firms will be following in the footsteps of major groups such as my own; Heron, Lex, Apple-

yards and others, who have all closed down dealers because property values became so great they are no longer economical.

We have closed three locations in London and three in the south because of the high land values there."

Mr Crossman, an American, who has lived in this country for more than 30 years, is best known as the man who sold so many Ford cars and acquired so many retail outlets that the factory blocked all further expansion.

At the time he was bitterly resentful. Today he accepts that it was a blessing in disguise which forced him to diversify into a wide range of British and imported rival cars.

He gave warning, however, that over-enthusiastic expansion by dealers is one of the factors behind the motor trade's present troubles.

"Put quite simply, too many dealers have over-extended themselves. They have big push new premises which are way ahead of the market requirements. The manufacturers and importers are partly to blame for this."

"Some of them—the importers in particular—have been over-optimistic about the market share they would win. But in the final analysis it is the dealer who pays if he does not make his own choice."

Mr Crossman is particularly critical of the present new car price war which closely follows American selling tactics.

The difference is that it has been normal in the United States for many years and arrived in Britain overnight. It is being operated here by manufacturers, dealers and their salesmen who do not know how to handle this type of selling. In America it might appear

that the customer was buying his car for what the dealer had paid for it. But at the end of the day the American dealer still made a reasonable profit by selling more additives to the car, including insurance and hire purchase.

"In this country we are now giving away cars at ridiculous discounts and then giving away hire purchase, insurance, road fund and free petrol—you name it and somebody is giving it away. It is madness," he said.

The motor trade has an over-sensitive grapevine in normal times. Today it is positively neurotic. No one is safe from rumours of closures, including Mr Crossman's own BSG group.

"At one time the gossip was so bad that we decided to put important callers on to our main bankers for them to give details of our financial stability. That put an end to it—I hope," he said.



Mr Harry Crossman: over-enthusiastic expansion blamed.

Cambridge economists believe government strategy is failing

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

At the start of a week which is expected to see the Bank of England announce a further sharp rise in the money supply—probably more than 3 per cent for the August banking month—the Cambridge group of economists describes the Government's economic strategy as failing.

In a series of criticisms of government policy published this morning, Phillips & Drew, stockbrokers, suggest that the present monetarist strategy has run into severe, perhaps even insuperable, difficulties.

There are two main thrusts to the Cambridge argument. The first is that the government's policy of controlling inflation, the real economy is emerging in poor shape with output recovering late and more slowly than the Government expects.

A key element for the policy over the coming months will be the speed and extent of the moderation in wage settlements. Unless there is marked improvement on this front before the middle of next year, the authors suggest that the Government may well have to consider a one-year pay freeze from next July.

A further matter of great importance for the Government will be the exchange rate. The

article says that while it would probably be wrong for the Government to take strong action to get the exchange rate down, it is quite clear that the exchange rate is expected to fall eventually.

This would encourage British exporters to persist in overseas operations.

Phillips & Drew, the stockbroking firm, suggests in its September economic forecast that the Government will almost certainly have to reduce its sterling M3 target in October.

This will indicate considerable flexibility and pragmatism from the Government, even on its prime policy target, and must call into question whether it will achieve its stringent medium term financial targets.

These are already coming under strain as the recession deepens, putting upward pressure on the public sector borrowing requirement which the brokers see as rising to around £10,000m in the present financial year and approaching £12,000m in 1981-82.

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Democrats ignore economic problems to criticize Reagan programme

Mr Carter finds attack is the best defence

The Carter reelection campaign is largely disregarding the sorry state of the United States economy and directly attacking the Republican party's economic plans.

The most detailed and most devastating attack was launched on Friday night by Mr James McIntyre, the Carter Administration's budget director.

President Carter has crisply described the economic policy ideas of Mr Ronald Reagan, the Republican presidential candidate, as "sugar-coated poison."

Mr McIntyre asserted that Mr Reagan's plans read "like the fanciful invention of an imaginative script writer in the make-believe world of Hollywood."

President Carter ridiculed the Republican plans as the Democrats' party convention a few weeks ago but now for the first time the Carter camp has issued a full-scale assault on the opposition.

The budget director told a National Business League conference in Detroit that the Republican plans would cut tax revenues by at least \$285,000m (£118,750m) a year by 1985 and, to balance the budget in 1985, the party would then have to spend \$100,000m (above today's level) on tax cuts, debt payments and defence outlays alone would account for \$360,000m

by 1985 and a further \$360,000m would be needed merely to cover social security, health and unemployment programmes. The result would be that Mr Reagan would have just \$10,000m left.

At least \$15,000m would be needed merely to cover such costs as the cost guard, the courts and the prisons. The Republican programme would force the end of all government financing of education, child nutrition, food stamps, supplemental social security assistance, housing, jobs, research, energy, farming and much, much more.

Now the Republicans will assert that supply-side economic theory will show that the tax cuts will so stimulate economic growth that overall tax revenues will indeed swell and that Mr McIntyre is talking nonsense. The budget director, however, has done his supply-side sums.

The Republicans are accurate only if for the next few years real economic growth is consistently at an exceptionally high annual rate of 7 1/2 per cent and if there is a very great business investment boom that sees such investment leap from 10 per cent of gross national product to between 20 and 25 per cent. Such an increase, Mr McIntyre said, was "economically implausible and physically impossible."

There is every chance that as the campaign heats up here, Mr Reagan will find it increasingly difficult to defend the economic programmes that Mr McIntyre and Mr Carter can so easily assault.

But there seems to me to be a snag: each attack by the Carter campaign on Mr Reagan's economics invites a look at President Carter's record.

After all, there are now eight million unemployed Americans, inflation is rising and is firmly in double figures, industrial output is down by more than 9 per cent so far this year and interest rates are creeping upwards again.

As Mr McIntyre knows as budget director, President Carter pledged in the 1976 campaign to balance the budget, but in fact he has built up a string of big deficits, including \$63,000m this year.

Mr McIntyre was particularly pleased on Friday night by borrowing a phrase about Mr Reagan's economics from an old speech once made by Mr George Bush, now Mr Reagan's running mate as Republican vice-presidential candidate. He said that Bush had called such policies "voodoo economics."

Frank Vogel

From Nicholas Hirst, Munich, Sept. 7

Energy problems of the Third World seem set to dominate the 11th World Energy Conference which opens here tomorrow.

The conference is well timed, coming immediately before finance, foreign and oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meet in Vienna to try to resolve an automatic system for crude oil pricing and an increased programme of aid for developing countries.

Once has stressed continuously its solidarity with the Third World and has sought to find ways of implementing a new economic order to ease the financial plight of the developing countries.

In a paper to be considered by the conference, Mr Jean-

Third World needs likely to dominate energy talks

Romain Frisch of Electricite de France, paints a frightening picture of the possible increase in energy demand in Third World countries.

Mr Frisch argues that largely as a result of sharp continuing population growth, Third World energy demand will rise tenfold by the end of the century from the equivalent of 443 million tons of oil in 1974 to 5,000 million tons in 2000 and 10,000 million tons in 2020. The traditional, non-commercial sources of energy, such as firewood which took 35 per cent of demand in 1976 would contribute only 17 per cent in 2000, and 10 per cent in 2020.

Nuclear power and hydroelectric schemes would meet some of the increased needs, but oil demand is expected to increase sharply.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A curious hybrid

Attempting to preserve the balance between equality of treatment for all shareholders, the desirability of an unfettered market and the need for self-regulation to be seen to be working, the Council for the Securities Industry has given birth to a curious hybrid.

A new 15 per cent threshold beyond which some kind of tender with five days' grace will be necessary satisfies the objections to raids on the basis of inequality as well as being visibly a self-regulatory action.

However, in achieving that indisputably fetters the market, and it should be remembered that when the row over dawn raids began in the early summer the one thing that everyone wanted to avoid was taking action that fettered the market.

Whether that fettering has been forced on the members of the CSI by the poor damage created for them by the secretive stalking of a target company or by a genuine consensus that raids were undesirable operations is now academic since the momentum for regulation is overwhelming.

This momentum has been self-generating largely because of the Stock Exchange's vacillation on the issue. It has offered the option of allowing dawn raids to continue while making minor improvements to their regulation and even explaining fully why such raids are not necessarily undesirable.

As an exercise to self-regulation it has not been edifying. A whirlpool of indecision and uncertainty has produced another layer of bureaucracy which effectively bans raids.

As such it is probably more a product of a historical necessity as far as the development of the market is concerned than an absolute condition for the equitable treatment of shareholders. This necessity was itself created by the sheer number of raiders who jumped on the bandwagon, many of whom will have found it an excessively public and costly operation.

In short, the CSI's members more directly involved in stock market dealings have found themselves in the ironical position of having to support the regulation of a circumstance which they themselves embraced too wholeheartedly in the first place.

Stockbrokers

Breaking with tradition

One point that emerges is that stockbrokers have to be remarkably prosperous or complacent if they are not preparing for the day when the traditional separation of broker and jobber and fixed minimum commissions breaks down, as everything seems to suggest it will.

The Restrictive Trade Practices Court inquiry into the Stock Exchange Rule Book will probably start hearings in 1982 and the Stock Exchange already knows that its defence of ancient practices is unlikely to be supported by its key customers. Many institutional fund managers have already made clear their wish for free competition between member firms.

No stockbroker has this year done more to prepare than Rowe & Pitman. It has trespassed into the traditional territory of merchant banks with a series of dawn raids, the first technique in decades to give the predator in take-overs an advantage over the defence.

Less well known, is last month's big extension of Far Eastern interests through the link with PICA, a Singapore-based Asian development finance concern, and the April decision to open a branch in Boston to complement the existing one in San Francisco.

Rowe & Pitman is not the only broker making new departures. Simon & Coates has emerged representing big clients at the power behind Mr. Jim Dwyer, the entrepreneur who now controls Christy Bros, but the point about all these ventures is that they involve no fundamental departure from the basic broker business of buying and selling shares and providing advice about them.

But one Rowe & Pitman venture is a departure. At the end of January it set up a commercial and industrial investment service for institutional and other clients. Its offices in Leadenhall Street, London, are manned by two bright young surveyors, a third is joining soon.

They have two, possibly three deals for clients in the pipeline and they have three

years to show their stockbroker employers a good return. They maintain that they give surveys and estate agents as much information as they get, and that they are delighted with the reception they have had.

Other brokers who specialise in advising on property investment are not following Rowe & Pitman into physical property. Some say that they cannot afford to antagonize estate agents and surveyors from whom all useful information about deals arises; others maintain that brokers are in the business of making money every day, not in locking up capital which may yield a return once every few months even if they can afford to do so. A few concede privately that they occasionally try to do what Rowe is doing, but do not shout about it.

These decisions may be right for them but not for Rowe & Pitman which probably does more property business on The Stock Exchange than any other broker. But whether the new venture will ever get any big property deals is still an open question.

The point about Rowe & Pitman is that it is thought to be particularly strong in small and medium-sized pension fund clients which may well be amenable to a stockbroker-surveyor willing to deal with all their property problems in one handy package; and there is no doubt that Rowe & Pitman is among the best suited among property specialists for such a role.

There is nothing wrong with the concept. After all many clients of stockbrokers expect instant advice to go with any decision about share buying or selling. The only practical question is whether or not Rowe & Pitman is trying to do too much.

Small investors

Under pressure again

Certainly, the image of the private client who takes calls from his stockbroker before setting out for the grouse moor is dead. But the question of the small investor's role in the stock market is far from buried.

Despite the tax disincentives against this group and the prospect of the OFT's investigation into Stock Exchange practices, brokers who continue to hold private client portfolios are making determined efforts to develop that business.

Their reasons for doing so are clear. The bulk of market transactions by value is made for institutions, but private clients still account for 70 per cent of deals by number. On top of that The Stock Exchange itself regards this work as essential to retain market liquidity and to maintain any semblance of two-way activity, not to mention the image in Whitehall.

At the same time brokers are in the market to make profit and it is more than ever difficult to do so when dealing with small portfolios. The evidence for this is a gradual departure from the minimum commission rate. Some brokers are now charging £25 for equity purchases of under £1,000 while The Stock Exchange rate remains at £7.

The long-term solution for the brokers and their clients does not, however, lie with straightforward increases in commissions although the periodic rises help to offset costs. The problem is that there is very little reason for a small private investor to take his chance as a direct investor as brokers are now offering a much more widespread type of financial advice which includes recommending alternatives like unit trusts and insurance policies.

Nevertheless, the trend away from direct investment in shares is likely to become more marked if The Stock Exchange is forced to make changes as a result of the OFT case. If fixed commissions disappear institutional investors with their own research facilities will be the first to benefit as brokers will be able to set a realistic commission for the work done. This was certainly the experience in New York when negotiated commissions came in.

Private clients will, as a result, be forced to pay for detailed advice whose costs are presently absorbed by larger clients. Unless then there is a direct legislative move to encourage private investors along the lines of what has happened in France perhaps, the present uneasy alliance between the two types of business will disappear.

The price will be the final demise of the private client, and with that the disappearance of the broadly-based London market we have today.

Finance, foreign and oil ministers are meeting in Vienna next week to try to agree a package of proposals which could change not only its system of pricing but its relationship with the rest of the world.

It is appropriate that such a potentially important meeting should take place in Vienna. Opec's headquarters are there, but it is not for the first time that the revolutionary "Carlos" kidnapping mission including Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani of Saudi Arabia, five years ago.

Now a return is being made to the city where, nearly seven years ago, the final meeting took place in which prices were set jointly by Opec and the multinational oil companies.

As the two delegations meet, the oil companies led by George Percy of Exxon and Opec led by Shaikh Yamani—war was racing between Israel and Egypt. In a tense and emotional atmosphere Opec asked for a doubling of the price to \$6 a barrel. Mr Percy had been authorized to offer an increase of \$1.

The companies asked for time to consult their governments. It was not to be given. Opec met again in Kuwait and set a new price of just over \$5 a barrel. The biggest change in the world economic order since the Second World War had begun.

Opec's leaders now believe that it is time for the negotiating to come of age. Speaking in London last week Mr Fadhil Al-Chalabi, Opec's deputy general secretary, made the point that Opec no longer regards its prime task as defending its

Nicholas Hirst

The next challenges for Opec

which can be agreed and at the same time try to announce a plan to raise aid to the developed world while going some way towards setting up talks with consuming countries.

The details should all be agreed in Vienna, but the hard bargaining is not yet over. Iran's agreement to the automatic pricing scheme, which would use an Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development measure of Western inflation to index quarterly rises and link real price rises to OECD growth, is far from assured.

It had seemed that Iran had dropped its objections. The latest information is that they are as strong as ever. Iran, it seems, dislikes the whole scheme.

Algeria had been against using OECD indices, preferring indices of inflation and growth in Opec members, but has seemed prepared to go along with a general consensus in an organization which relies on unanimity to make decisions. It cannot be certain that the scheme will go ahead. Neither can it be certain that a call for increased third world aid, particularly if it is linked to oil price rises, will be met.

So much prestige is now hanging on the outcome at Baghdad that the pressure to agree on a scheme of some sort is strong. Just how much effect such pressure will have on Iran remains an unknown quantity, but assuming that some agreement is reached, its implementation will be fraught with difficulty.

First, it will be essential to return to a unified price structure with an understanding on the side of crude quality and freight differentials which may

be allowed from the benchmark price.

Saudi Arabia has continued to produce 9.1 million barrels a day, one million barrels more than its long-term limit, in an attempt to drive down prices on the spot market, take the heat out of the West's supply fears and allow reunification to take place. The conditions are now right for this to happen. Worldwide stocks are at a record high level. Demand in the West has fallen and industry experts reckon that Opec's production is running at getting on for two million barrels a day more than is needed despite cutbacks made in the first half.

A deal should now be possible. An extraordinary meeting of Opec oil ministers seems likely to follow the special Vienna meeting. Saudi Arabia looks set to reduce its production and, at some stage, to increase its price. At present Saudi Arabia is charging \$23 a barrel. Most Opec members have aligned themselves to a benchmark of \$32, while others are theoretically bound by a ceiling of \$57.

Saudi Arabia may raise its price all the way to Vienna—or before; or it may, and this seems more likely, go part of the way, in order to test the good faith of its fellow Opec members not to impose price rises of their own. An eventual reunification at around \$32, nevertheless, looks likely.

Whether or not the automatic pricing system is agreed, the financial surpluses which the oil producers are receiving should allow them to cut back production to prevent an erosion of prices in real terms. But, as in the past, it will be difficult to avoid discounting it in times of glut, even if, as has been suggested, the poorer producers are given loans by the richer Opec members to prevent it happening.

It is wrong to make hasty judgments before the final scheme is known, but the fact is that oil prices have already passed the cost of many alternatives. Coal is now a more economic fuel for heating and power generation. Synthetic fuels are on the verge of profitability. Renewables are becoming feasible.

Western economic growth during the next few years will be too slow to create increased demand for Opec oil and from 1985 onwards alternatives will begin to come in. For the West the danger is that there will be another upheaval like that in Iran before its reliance on Opec has been reduced.

The long-term strategy committee which has drawn up the proposals to be put at Vienna started work when the general expectation was that oil prices would double in real terms by the end of the century. They have already done so.

Real rises on the automatic system will not be very great while western growth remains slow. Regular rises to keep prices constant in real terms are better than sudden leaps. Opec may have the discipline to work the proposed system, but it may not.

If the West is sceptical about a system which attempts to control market forces, it is right to be so. But if Opec wants talks and it seems that the world is ready to keep its aspirations down and economic reality firmly in sight.

Blackburn—a textile town hit by recession

For one person at least there is a job going at Blackburn in Lancashire. More than a year ago the vicar of Christ Church left for another parish. Since then a procession of ten or more clergymen have turned up and shown an interest in the vacancy.

But one after another they have turned the living down because there is no suitable accommodation to go with it. The church elders are reported to be "seriously concerned".

Few people in Blackburn can afford to be quite so choosy these days. With an unemployment figure of 5,571, or 9.9 per cent of the total workforce, the once-thriving textile town lies at the heart of a north-east Lancashire area in which more than 6,500 jobs have been lost through closures since early 1979. Several districts outside the town lost eight months of this year.

Mr Jack Straw, Blackburn's Labour MP, calls it an "economic holocaust" and even his parliamentary neighbour, along the Rossendale valley, Conservative MP Mr David Trappier, finds it hard to accuse him of exaggeration.

One thing which everybody is agreed on is that the signs are that things will get worse this winter. Short-time working is widespread and many more redundancies are known to be in the pipeline.

Not that the town of Blackburn is the worst hit. Lancashire as a whole is the worst hit. There are communities where the unemployment rate is running at 20 per cent and more. But the speed with which the industrial collapse has struck in recent months has been a shocking shock to a town that seemed to be standing up well to the steady erosion of its textile industry.

Now not only is the residue of the textile sector being further decimated (in north Lancashire 30 mills have closed since January and another 22 are to close), but industries which moved in to provide alternative employ-



Marks of industrial dereliction and decay in Blackburn.

ment and which were regarded as potential growth points are going to the wall.

The pace at which the recession has been overtaking Blackburn has been gathering momentum since early spring. Some of the companies where job losses have occurred include: in March, Huntfield Engineering (25); Mullard at Hindstone (850); and Dynamo Electrical (180); in April, Courtaulds Imperial Mill (300); in May, Greenbank Mill (20); Clayton Goodfellow (20); in June, Waterfall Mill (18); and in July, Huntfield Engineering (34) and Berg Manufacturing (15). These figures do not include companies affected in the areas around the town to which people travel to work.

But it was last month which brought a series of rapid and crippling blows. Early in August came the news that Pickering Blackburn, one of the world leaders in the manufacture of carpet tufting machinery, was to close with the loss of 520 jobs. The decision followed losses of more than £4m during the past two years.

Within a few days of the announcement of the Pickering closure, Total revealed plans to shut its bale weaving mill in Blackburn. Only six months ago this had been reacquainted with modern looms, which the company had stripped from a weaving mill it was closing at Belper.

Bale weaving was already on short time but Total hoped that restructuring of its operations could save it. The shut-down will mean the loss of 175 jobs next month.

August also brought the news that a further 600 Blackburn workers were being put on a three-day working week. Short-time working is now in operation for 250 at the RHP Bearings foundry and for a further 350 at the Cleydon Mill. The William Birchwile Allied Mills Group.

RHP made it clear that the three-day week at its modern foundry was an alternative option to declaring some 80 redundancies. The weaving company explained its move as a response to falling demand from its customers, many of whom are themselves on short time, but it is adamant that the move must be closed.

The recession in the car industry also had repercussions in Blackburn during August. The components company Philcom Electronics, went into receivership and 120 workers received only five minutes before they left work for their summer holidays.

One future project in which he is heavily involved is the mammoth gas-pipeline scheme which is in the planning stage and de Vink is also interested in semi-submersibles capable of extracting oil from locations previously thought uneconomic.

The resells would prove viable because of the twin factors of escalating oil prices and their ability to move to new locations once existing small pockets of oil had been exhausted.

Such projects interest de Vink's alter ego. His one great disappointment in life is that he has never gained any formal training as an engineer. "I would have loved to have become an engineer," he says. "You see problems in a different way."

Small wonder that people like Brunel number among his heroes. They also contribute to one of his many theories about Britain's past mistakes.

According to de Vink, the country's universities are now producing more graduates than the country can absorb in its universities with prospective engineering graduates. He is clearly disappointed that he cannot fill the role himself.

David Hewson

Business Diary profile: Peter de Vink, Edinburgh's financial engineer

According to one close observer of the Edinburgh financial world, the ideas which emerge from Peter de Vink with the rapidity and verve of sparks from a cutler's grindstone, generally break down into 25 per cent pure and 75 per cent material of a lesser nature.

This kind of erratic, if gifted, performance is not the sort which goes down well in circles where results of a more even, if less spectacular, nature are preferred. It is not difficult to find those in Scotland and London, who dislike de Vink's apparent capacity for self-publicity, his willingness to range long and wide on virtually any subject, and his unusual habit of describing his role as that of a "financial engineer".

We are about tackling problems in unconventional ways, digging holes around them until they collapse, lateral thinking," de Vink says of his company, Edinburgh Financial and General Holdings.

The theories of Edward de Bono, and the hard world of finance have tended to keep each other at arm's length in the past, and there are those who are glad of it. But, despite his critics, de Vink can point to some successes.

His most notable in recent weeks was the battle to keep Ferranti as an independent Scottish company as it moved out from under the wing of its parent, the National Enterprise Board.

It seemed inevitable that the group would be swallowed up by some larger parent—probably GEC—when the Government announced that it wanted

to dispose of the 50 per cent equity held by the NEB. Much against the odds, de Vink came up with a solution which enabled the shares to be sold to financial institutions with a restriction that they must not be resold for at least two years.

The hope of Ferranti, and de Vink, is that after two years the institutions will be so loyal to the company that they will not hope to make a quick killing by selling at what ought to be a higher price on the market. One can only guess at

whether their hopes will be realized. What is remarkable about events at Ferranti is that they represent a decisive turn of the part of Sir Keith Joseph, whose free-market philosophy left no room for special deals to cater for Scottish national feeling despite strong pressure for such action from the Scottish Office.

It was de Vink's solution of tying the institutions to a two-year covenant which changed the mind of the Secretary of State for Industry, helped, say

the cynics, by the fact that the Government had just made a poor showing at the Glasgow Central by-election.

De Vink's opposition to the takeover of Ferranti by British body as GEC stems from his belief in it as a Scottish institution—he emphasizes his personal admiration for Sir Arnold Weinstock.

"Ferranti was unbelievably important to Scotland, much more important than people down in London understand. It has been a feed-bed of talent. It has also played an enormous part in what I call the intellectual infrastructure of Scotland."

This avowed affection for life north of the border contrasts, as de Vink readily admits, with his background. A Dutchman, he came to Edinburgh in 1963 to study at Edinburgh University, found the place to his liking, and stayed, joining Ivory and Sims for 12 years until he set out on his own to form EFGH in October, 1978.

His talent for financial engineering has led him to bringing parties together for a number of North Sea contracts, including a ship built at Scott Lithgow in the Lower Clyde, and a joint venture between British subsidiary Redpath Dorman Long, and the Dutch construction group de Groot. The resulting partnership now runs a platform-making yard at Methil, Fife.

De Vink sees his company's role as an interface between small and successful businesses in Scotland and the financial institutions.

The institutions are definitely taking upon themselves to provide a new role. They feel they ought to play a more im-

portant part in the whole framework."

One future project in which he is heavily involved is the mammoth gas-pipeline scheme which is in the planning stage and de Vink is also interested in semi-submersibles capable of extracting oil from locations previously thought uneconomic.

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de Vink as Attenborough, looking for an audience in the jungle of technology.

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It is with pleasure that once again I am able to report that record profits and turnover have been achieved.

Directors recommend a sub-division of shares and a scrip issue resulting in Shareholders receiving a total of four ordinary shares of 10p for every existing share of 20p....

Dennis S. Rose, Chairman

SUMMARY OF RESULTS for the year ended 25 April 1980

	1980	1979
TURNOVER — net sales to customers	£24,461,616	£19,549,360
PROFIT before taxation	£3,537,064	£2,237,945
DIVIDENDS net per 20p share:		
Interim paid	4.00p	2.23p
Final proposed	11.00p	7.77p
EARNINGS per 20p share	71.4p	47.4p

Copies of the 1980 Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, 318-338 F&N ROAD SOUTH, DAGENHAM, ESSE, R. IG10 1BA.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Crouch affected by less housebuilding

By Our Financial Staff
Half-time profits from Crouch Group, the housebuilder currently making the transition to property development are expected to be hit by the reduced demand in the housing market.

The chairman, Mr. Ronald Crouch, tells shareholders in his annual statement out today that profits for the current half year, which ends this month, will continue to be depressed by the present state of the housing market.

However, he says that the application of established policy and the group's inherent strengths enable it to

look forward to another successful year.

For the year to the end of March pre-tax profits fell from £76,000 to £693,000 largely due to a double interest charge. But below-the-line profits halved from £692,000 to £324,000 due to an extraordinary £294,000 loss on the sale of their Irish subsidiary.

That figure assumes the recovery by the group of an outstanding £282,000. The board says that depending on the successful completion of a housing development it considers this amount will eventually be recovered in full.

B & Q accepts takeover

B & Q (Retail), whose chairman, Mr. David Quayle, told shareholders back in July that the group was feeling the effects of the recession, has formally accepted the £5p share takeover offer from F. W. Woolworth, Britain's second largest retailer which reported a collapse in profits last month.

The company's board and its major shareholder have committed its 57.5 per cent shareholding to a bid which offered a 30.8 per cent premium over the pre-takeover share price of B & Q and a 41.7 per cent premium over the DIY group's flotation price last year.

Meanwhile, the American company is to close its loss-making Spanish operation.

Heineken hit by lower US trading

High interest rates as well as difficult economic conditions in large areas of the United States resulted in a considerable decline in stocks of Heineken, the Dutch beer and distillers group.

Trading profit dropped 38 per cent to £188m (about £18.2m) from £142.4m a year earlier.

Heineken NV said its net profit for the first half in 1980 dropped 52 per cent to £130.3m from £162.7m.

of Hk\$245.30m and extraordinary profits of Hk\$217.90m. Sites four and five in the Aberdeen centre were completed early this year and created Hk\$112.30m of trading profit before tax.

However, Mr. Wyllie said that the company's United Kingdom subsidiary has made a disappointing start to the year and Alpha Leather company has been closed.

He repeated the forecast given at the time of the July announcement of a rights issue

to be distributed to the bearer shares, and a bonus of Fr1 to a Fr10 dividend for the registered shares.

Net profit rose by 2.9 per cent to Fr760,532 in 1980 from Fr729,051 a year earlier. Gross earnings were up 1.4 per cent at Fr1,331m from Fr1,311m in 1979.

The company plans to increase the share capital by offering one new bearer share with a nominal value of Fr500 for every 6 held at Fr1,250.

Turnover was up 4.6 per cent to £1,489m from £1,419m.

Trading profit as a percentage of sales contracted to 6 per cent from 10 per cent. Heineken commented that one of the main causes of the sharp drop in earnings was a decline in shipments of products to the United States of more than 20 per cent.

that the company's consolidated profit after tax, minority and preference dividends but before extraordinary items will be not less than Hk\$345m against last year's Hk\$296.9m.

Mikron to pay bonus
Mikron Holding SA of Switzerland says that after its goods results for 1979, the precision tools-machinery company will add a bonus payout to an unchanged dividend and that it plans to increase the share capital.

A bonus of 5 Swiss francs in addition to a Fr50 dividend will

be distributed to the bearer shares, and a bonus of Fr1 to a Fr10 dividend for the registered shares.

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Further casualties of a strong pound

only to compound the problems of Penguin. The move to a new HQ and further trading losses should see total losses of Penguin this time of more than £700,000.

The recession continues to drag down the newspaper side and further starting up costs of its Frankfurt editions are likely to squeeze profits at the Financial Times.

Further signs of the damaging effects of strong sterling and high interest rates will be in evidence this week when BSR and Turner & Newall turn in interim figures.

The problems of the publishing world will also be given an airing when S. Pearson, owner of the Financial Times, and Pearson Longman turn in interim figures. Other companies of interest to report include BICC and Hepworth Ceramic.

On the economic front the banking world highlights the week. But the Government information starts today with the retail sales for July from the Department of Trade and the wholesale price index for August from the Department of Industry.

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Also on Tuesday, the Department of the Environment releases housing starts and completions for July.

Rounding off the week on Friday the Department of Employment publishes the retail price index for August and the British Steel Corporation and BISPA release the figures of usable steel production for August.

Tomorrow's interim figures from S. Pearson are likely to reflect the impact of the recent NGA printing dispute and the continuing downturn in the publishing world. Estimates range from £18m to £23m, which compares with the corresponding figure last year of £20.5m.

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Taking advantage of hotels cyclical

Hotels are all a question of cycles, Mr. Robert Tilscher, an analyst at Grieson, Grant, concludes in a 100-page survey of the industry.

Investment in the sector must be essentially long term to take account of this cyclical nature and means discounting the present value in profits growth which is following the "period of sustained progress in the 1970s".

In turn will lead to weakening in the share prices which "may be seen as an opportune time to invest in the industry".

Brokers' views

next cyclical upturn to 1985".

Turning to the companies themselves, there are no firm buy recommendations, with the best being a "strong hold/buy" for Ladbroke. This comes in spite of the impending dip in cash flow from the sale of the casinos and Mr. Tilscher's forecast of £30m pre-tax profits this year against £49.2m last time.

In his view, at a price of 182p the shares look inexpensive and "fully reflect a credibility gap surrounding the future of the group". He points to a net asset value of 225p per share.

Among the giants, Mr. Tilscher can manage only a "weak hold/reduce" for Trust Houses Forte on the basis of gloomy prospects this year. "A whole series of industry factors are stacked against the likelihood of TIF repeating their successful profits increase of last year."

Still he expects some profits advance—from £58.2m to £73m this year.

There is also little enthusiasm for Grand Metropolitan in spite of an expected profits increase from £136m to £160m. The then price of 156p Mr. Tilscher sees as "a little demanding for the level of yield on the share".

Meanwhile, the United States is a substantial problem. Now that would also include Coral Leisure.

The rest of the companies receive a variety of hold recommendations with the lowest being Ladbroke, the lowest ratings of "weak hold/sell".

Another substantial work—this time running to 80 pages—is Vickers & Costa's latest quarterly review of food manufacturers, compiled by analyst Mr. Tim Potter.

He points out that the sector has shown some relative strength in recent months as a result of the industry not being hit by recession as other sectors. Output from all manufacturing industry fell by 5 per cent in the first six months of the year while food industry output rose by 1 per cent.

But in share price terms performance has been mixed with Unilever notably outperforming by 10 per cent—largely on the basis of defensive merits—while Associated Biscuits is expected to continue to underperform.

Mr. Potter is optimistic in the medium term. In Unilever's case he is expecting full-year earnings to decline by perhaps 5 per cent but expects the shares to move from their present position of par to a premium because of the defensive qualities.

AB is expected to show a 6 per cent pre-tax profits increase to £12.25m and overall the shares are seen as "an above average medium-term investment".

Elsewhere Brook Bond, Liebig and Ranks Hovis McDougall are seen as attractive high yielders while Associated British Foods may mark time in the short term but have a sound sound on a longer view.

Cadbury Schweppes is seen as the best medium-term investment with Rowntree Maclean being problematic.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank 16%
Barclays 16%
BCCI 16%
Consolidated Crds 16%
C. Hoare & Co 16%
Lloyds Bank 16%
Midland Bank 16%
Nat Westminster 16%
Rosenstein 16%
TSB 16%
Williams & Glyn's 16%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and over
£35,000 13%
£50,000 14%

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212
The Over-the-Counter Market

Capitalisation	Company	Last Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yld	P.E.
3,054	Airsprung Group	53	+1	6.7	12.6	*3.1
550	Armstrong & Rhodes	22	+1	1.4	6.4	*9.3
10,387	Bardon Hill	170	—	9.7	5.7	*6.4
740	County Cars Pref	74	—	15.3	20.7	—
6,096	Deborah Corp	97	+1	5.5	5.7	*4.8
4,724	Frederick Dorell	126	+1	7.9	6.3	*3.9
9,679	Frederick Dorell	67	-1	11.0	16.4	*4.1
1,852	George Blair	87	-1	16.5	19.0	—
2,050	Jackson Group	52	—	6.0	7.3	*3.1
16,562	James Burrough	120	—	7.9	6.5	*9.8
3,111	Robert Jenkins	305	—	31.3	10.2	—
3,385	Torday Limited	220	—	15.1	6.9	*3.7
2,725	Twinklford Ord	121	—	—	—	—
2,320	Twinklford 15% ULS	85	—	15.0	17.6	—
7,019	Uniclock Holdings	46	-1	3.0	6.5	*7.1
12,758	Walter Alexander	101	+1	5.7	5.6	*5.6
5,718	W. S. Yates	245	—	12.1	4.9	*4.0

* Accounts prepared under provision of SSAPIS.

THE TIMES

Veuve Clicquot

Business Woman

of the Year 1980 Award.

Champagne awaits the person who can nominate the outstanding Business Woman for 1980.

The Times Newspaper and Veuve Clicquot Champagne are seeking nominations for this unique Award which encourages and compliments the efforts of women in the commercial world. It is no longer exclusively 'a man's world' and there are many awards for women in all walks of life—except business. For these women the climb to the top has probably been harder than for their male colleagues, who now, at least, accept them as professionals and equals.

The Clicquot Inspiration

La Veuve Clicquot was a vivacious young

